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CRITICISM OF MOROCCAN RAID ON MAURITANIA

Algiers EL DJEICH in French Sep 80 p 24

[Article by Aissa Siouda: "Moroccan Raid on Mauritania: Diversionary
'Phantoms' "]

[Text] Failures, whether diplomatic or military, are hard to accept. So hard in fact that they sometimes make people do foolish or even ridiculous things. Hassan II knows something about that. He is considered a master in such matters. His successive failures in the western Sahara haunt him and give him nightmares, but ones he still persists in trying to turn into dreams. The dream of a great Morocco, so dear to Allal el-Fassi, stretching from Tangiers to the Senegal river, by way of Tindouf in Algeria and as far as certain parts of Mali. Some dream!

The very latest failure to afflict sharifian diplomacy, at the 17th OAU summit in Freetown, at which the SDAR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] was recognized by 26 countries, or the majority of the organization's members, has stuck in his throat like a bone. But the king does not seem to be giving up his dream as a result, and is trying to make others pay the price, a very high one, for his failures. Royal stubbornness and cynicism! Who is the victim this time? Mauritania, a country that Hassan II has never forgiven for having abandoned him and left him all alone in his military venture in the Sahara, and for having become aware of his greedy expansionist plans.

The curtain has fallen. The truth is out. The bombing of the area around Boulanouar, a few kilometers northwest of Nouhadibou, the economic capital of Mauritania, exposes Hassan II's plans for hegemony. To that end, any means are right according to the monarch's way of thinking.

Diplomatically isolated, threatened at home by ever-growing popular dissatisfaction, the sharifian monarch is now trying to save his shaky throne through acts of pure barbarity. The raid on Boulanouar is a very significant example.

Up to the present, two countries were known to be capable of this sort of barbarity toward their neighbors: Israel and South Africa. Now, Morocco makes the third one. Rabat's expansionist logic impels it to commit the

inadmissible, to defy the law and international entreaties, with a frenzy akin to desperation. The desperation of a cornered regime sparing neither politics nor military means to stay in power.

The actual bombing of Boulanouar cannot be considered as merely an incident of no great importance, because it sheds light on two disturbing aspects.

First, it has just reminded us that the dream of a "great empire" is still alive and that Hassan II is not giving up his hegemonic policy. The danger still exists. It is getting more and more serious. And then, it includes a diversionary aspect. The failure of Moroccan diplomacy at Freetown, the diplomatic and military victories of the SDAK, are impelling the would-be politicians in Rabat to play the card of dissension, with the obvious intention of confusing the issues in the Saharan problem. A no-trump game, because the truth cannot be hidden indefinitely from international opinion. The Saharan cause itself carries victory after victory, and the ALPS / Saharan People's Liberation Army battle after battle. The ultimate victory of the Saharans is only a matter of time.

The attack on Boulanouar is part of a larger plan, aimed at the destabilization of Mauritania. Unable to justify, in the eyes of international opinion, a military annexation of the country, Rabat is trying to accomplish its aims through recourse to economic pressure. The objective of the raid, in fact, was destruction of the railroad linking the mining area of Zouerate to the port of Nouhadibou. By means of these tricks, Rabat is trying to reinstate in Nouakchott the businessmen favorable to it who have been excluded from the Mauritanian scene since the establishment of the Military Committee for National Salvation. But the maneuver failed. Mauritania again asserted that nothing will make it renege on its promises. Morocco is merely accentuating its isolation.

12149

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CRITICISM OF SADAT FOR DEALING WITH U.S., ISRAEL

Algiers EL DJEICH in French Sep 80 pp 25-26

[Article by Aissa Siouda: "The Pious Leader, American Strategy, and the Latest Concessions"]

[Text] Despite the slaps in the face received daily from his "dear friends" in America and Israel, Anwar Al-Sadat, the "pious Rais [leader]" makes no complaints, does not flinch. What is more, he is content to wait about in his ostrich-like policy and persists in his course. Neither the neglect nor the indifference that he meets with every day have succeeded in making him turn back. Could he do so, anyway? He would still not desist from increasingly cherishing his "beloved duo" (Israel and the U.S.); the "holy faith" has its obligations! Love, when you enthrall us!

In love it is not the same as in war. One must especially not offend one's dear partner, not upset his feelings in any way. He must be surrounded with every consideration. To blaze with the Arab common cause, Palestine, and the struggles of so many generations! After all, they are not worth much compared to an affectionate glance from the "two darlings."

Love is believed to be blind, but in politics, it is cynical, it sees farther and aims higher. Limitless, spellbinding, it wants everything and expects everything.

First Egypt, then the rest of the gulf Arab countries as far as the ocean, and all as a result of the complicity of other courtiers, other "Sadats" of whom there are so many in this vast homeland.

To show his devotion to his friends, Sadat gives them presents, and not negligible ones. The most recent are his naval and land military bases, to the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force. How pleased the Americans must be! Here is Egypt, the whole of Egypt, once a bastion of Anti-imperialism in their hands. What un hoped-for luck, when one has just lost Iran, and for ever! Merely a pawn move: the shah, a gendarme lost; Sadat, a gendarme found. A major piece in the area, complementing the role of Israel which for a variety of reasons cannot assume this role on its own.

For Israel cannot hide behind the curtain of Arabness and Islam to intervene in the region; henceforth the rais will take care of that. And so several warships from the sixth fleet have dropped anchor in Alexandria, several units of the U.S. Air Force have been stationed in a military airport situated northwest of Cairo since 10 July. These air units have come to strengthen those already stationed in Qena since implementation of the secret clauses of the disgraceful "Camp David" accords. These air and sea units are to undertake with the Egyptian Army joint training maneuvers that will last until next October. Thus the corrupt class now ruling Egypt has succeeded with the complicity of the United States in diverting the Egyptian army from its real mission, namely, confrontation with the Zionist enemy, by entrusting it with missions not its own. The concentration of several divisions on the Libyan border illustrates the truth of this. Soldiers and private officers are not to be blamed when the supreme command of this army is composed of a corrupt class that is willing to sell the whole of Egypt for "another handful of dollars." But the ultimate task of saving the country devolves upon those soldiers and those sincere officers who through their alliance with patriotic popular forces may wash away the shame and pick up the imperialist challenge.

The latest news is that two "F4 E" type aircrafts have crashed 12 kilometers from the above-mentioned airport in a desert area. The two pilots were killed. A commission has been ordered to look into the circumstances of this accident. The "Arab Egypt Liberation Front" has claimed responsibility for blowing up one of the U.S. "Phantoms" and attributes the operation to officers and soldiers who are still faithful to Nasserian principles and are doing all they can to prevent Egypt's becoming a Zionist base.

And so, despite the Knesset's recent decision to make Al Quds the definitive capital of Israel, Anwar Al-Sadat is throwing himself with even more force into the arms of imperialism and Zionism.

Those who long ago ceased to wager on the "return of the prodigal son" to the "Arab ranks" have received a big slap right in the face. If only the people would wake up! But it is not in their nature to do so. Need it be recalled therefore that whatever is taken by force is retrieved by the same means, and that nothing is to be expected from the bourgeois "catering" class that rules Egypt, with the "devout rais" at its head.

Any change in this country can only be the work of opposition by popular Egyptian forces. For only these forces interpret the will of the people.

The lessons of history have taught us that the will of the people is invincible whatever the strength of the imperialist powers. There is no lack of examples. The fate of despots is surely in the "dungeons of history"; the most outstanding example occurred recently in the home of the "Devout Rais." His friend the shah died in his arms, amid general indifference.

The progressive and popular forces will rise one day, it is certain, to put

an end to the story of this tragic "rotten love" that has gone on too long between the "Devout Rais" and his "friends and relations," for the wheel of history can never be prevented from turning in the direction of the aspirations of the people.

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APW TO EXERCISE GREATER POPULAR CONTROL

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French 24-30 Oct 80 pp 39-40

[Article: "A New Function: Inspection"]

[Text] Submitted by the government to the office of the National Popular Assembly 26 March 1980, that is during the recent spring session, the bill, amending and completing Order No 69-38 of 23 May 1969 setting forth the provincial code, is now being studied by an Assembly committee.

Study of this bill, planned for the last session and no doubt postponed due to the rather brief length of the session (the Party's special congress was a factor), will take place this fall along with other matters. Thus this time the deputies will have had enough time to study the documents and make an informed judgment.

But aside from certain provisions which specify somewhat better the responsibilities devolving on the governorate and the APW [Governorate Popular Assemblies], this bill will surely inspire a broad discussion.

Since what else could the deputies talk about in such a context if not about decentralization and deconcentration and above all debureaucratization of the administrative apparatus? Thus beyond the discussion of the juridical content of the document the Assembly will no doubt take up certain aspects connected with the functioning of administrative institutions. Above all, when it is known that the 5-year plan will this time be totally decentralized, involving a greater responsibility for the governorate and the APC. Since decentralization at the governorate level permits improvement of economic and social planning methods, inasmuch as they constitute a new approach to development problems.

Today then the governorate structures should be strengthened, giving them all the juridical, material, human and political resources necessary for the accomplishment of its important task.

Since the elaboration 11 years ago of the governorate code many things have changed the political, economic and social aspects of the country. But the code guiding the operation of a decentralized collectivity has not notably evolved and in some places there are gaps which create difficulties in operation.

Thus the bill to be submitted to the deputies beginning 22 October, opening date of the fall session, presents a fundamental principle, namely the updating of the

code by "strengthening the powers exercised by the governorate" and by perfecting its functioning with a view toward a better decentralization. This concerns the APW as well as the governorate executive.

Fill in the Gaps

If it is simply a matter of adapting the language to a new situation, one cannot help asking why the governorate assemblies' activities declined during a good period. Is it due to a bad coordination between the executive structure and the APW? This reason does not explain everything. There must be another reason--either in the systematic nonapplication (in the spirit and in the letter) of the legislation or else in the weakness of the latter.

The new draft bill, seeking to fill the gaps, confers other functions on the APW, widening its scope of activity, giving decentralization a content that is closer to what is expected of it. It should be said that decentralization does not mean, as it is often alleged, a decentralization of problems and an inflation of laws; on the contrary, it makes every effort to democratize State action, simplify governing procedures, and indeed break down the barrier separating government from citizen. Eleven years' experience provide inescapable conclusions. In that connection the balance sheet that could be drawn up on the function of the governorate and the APW as a decentralized structure is surely positive. Taking into consideration the experience gained up to now the draft bill seeks to extend the powers of the one, which strengthen the authority of the other. Thus decentralization and deconcentration bring about necessarily an increase in the burdens of the governorates which now have their economic, social and cultural authority considerably widened.

A Permanent Coordination

Conforming to the National Charter and the laws adopted by the National Popular Assembly at its preceding sessions, popular inspection will be exercised by the APW, as the new code specifies in 15 articles. Thereby the inspection function completes at the governorate level the political, technical and administrative inspections carried out by other institutions entrusted with that function. In this framework and according to the draft bill the APW carries out investigation in the public services of an administrative, industrial or commercial nature managed by the governorate or which operate within its territory; of enterprises or local organizations of any nature charged with operating programs of governorate economic, social and cultural development; cooperative organizations under State control and economic groups, socialized enterprises operating on the overall governorate level. Only organizations, enterprises and services whose inspection is carried out by APW and the APC and the juridical services, party organs, ANP services and those of public security, are excluded from the field of APW intervention and inspection.

APW exercises its inspection function by means of a permanent committee seeking to insure quality of services by public administrations, to judge the efficiency of enterprises and local organizations, to oversee at the governorate level the proper application of laws and regulations in force, to propose any urgent measure needed to safeguard the patrimony of local collectivities and enterprises, self-managed enterprises, or cooperative organizations in the socialist sector. Thus

the draft code, while widening the scope of action of the executive council, endows the Assembly with new functions; it will have a new office which will include a chairman and four vice chairmen who will become permanent. Also the APW can present a recommendation to the government which will consider making it a bill.

These institutions lacked a few responsibilities and practical functions needed for them to become more operational and hence more efficient. One might consider that inspection, which is not an easy task--far from it--will democratize the life of the popular assembly and allow it to play its role fully--this remains a current necessity. Provided of course that there is between it and the executive council an on-going coordination and harmonious relationship able to withstand every trial. In this connection the party will oversee, without replacing administrative bodies, the proper functions of the decentralized institutions which are directed by men in whom it has reposed its confidence.

Thus it is in the proper framework of the governorate that the party "impresses an ever-renewing élan on its role of creating and orienting and brings about the harmonizing and unity of aspirations between the base and the summit. Within the local governorate aspirations and popular participation find their full development, and there one has, for the party as for the state, the confrontation of ideas and of experience needed for the concretization of our political options and governmental action."

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CODIFICATION OF TWINNING OF AGRICULTURAL, NONAGRICULTURAL UNITS TO BE DISCUSSED

Algiers REVOLUTION ET TRAVAIL in French 1 Nov 80 pp 12, 13

[Article--passages between slantlines originally published in boldface]

[Text] The department of mass organizations and voluntariate has just considered a document on the twinning of agricultural and nonagricultural units. This document, submitted for discussion, has the virtue of putting the voluntariate back into its natural place, which after all is one which the workers and their labor organization have always demanded. This framework departs from the sporadic character of the voluntariate and proposes a more highly elaborated form, in which the headquarters, in particular, is the driving force.

On the occasion of the commemoration of the anniversary of the agrarian revolution, the labor movement is invited to reflect on this text, to formulate suggestions, and even to enrich the proposals in the interests of even closer solidarity between workers and peasants.

Among the means of enlarging and deepening, both qualitatively and quantitatively, the voluntariate, the twinning of agricultural and nonagricultural units will constitute the /Highest Form/ of organization of the voluntariate in support of the agrarian revolution.

In effect, the twinning is intended to establish /permanent and regular linkage/ between agricultural operations and the nonagricultural economic and sociocultural units; thus the twinning signifies the organization of support activities supporting the agricultural units which are not limited to material or circumstantial needs, but which are part of a general program of activity established at the start of the twinning, conjointly by the workers and peasants in the twinned units, while also taking into account material needs at the time as well as concerns looking toward the amelioration of living and working conditions of the peasants.

So twinning is /an integrated form of the voluntariate/ and it is superior because of the integration, in a given period (the agricultural year or several agricultural years), of diversified activities in economic matters and techniques of health, education and leisure.

The elaboration of any program of twinning organization necessitates determination of its objectives, its field of action as well as definition of the criteria which should rule the choices and decisions of twinning.

Objectives of Twinning

A higher, integrated, and permanent form of the voluntariate, twinning is the organization of political, economic, and sociocultural relations between agricultural and nonagricultural units with a view toward the consolidation of the alliance of the basic forces of the revolution, namely the workers and the peasants.

The consolidation of the alliance between the earth and the factory, between fellahs and manual laborers and intellectuals of the factories, the schools, and institutions is aimed ultimately at mobilization focused on the objectives laid out in the National Charter for agrarian revolution, cultural revolution, and industrial revolution, and industrial revolution.

Twinning is thus the concrete manifestation of the unity of the three revolutions--agrarian, cultural, and industrial--through which the revolution marches ahead toward socialism.

The achievement of this unity in the framework of the overall progress of our revolution assumes a strategic importance for the success of this undertaking, so true is it that the split between the agrarian and the industrial revolutions, between the industrial and cultural revolutions, carries within itself the risk of thwarting this progress, because this split (or these splits) represent a discoordination between the objectives aiming for the same goal, expressed in space and time.

At the moment, when concerns are effectively focused on evaluation and review of the previous achievements of the revolution and on the refinement of development plans for the decade to come, it has become imperative to better coordinate programs and activities and to synchronize them in order to progress in a more balanced way.

Twinning thus appears in all the depth and scope and significance of its objectives which are therefore political, economic, and sociocultural.

/Political objectives:/ On the political side, twinning represents the concrete solidarity between the towns and the peasants, between UGTA [General Union of Algerian Workers], UNFA [National Union of Algerian Women], UNJA [National Union of Algerian Youth], and ONM [National Veterans Organization] with UNPA [National Union of Algerian Peasants] right in the field.

The political objective is realized through:

--joint mobilization at the level of the agricultural unit, on objectives of the agrarian revolution;

--joint mobilization around the watchwords of the policy decreed by the FLN [National Liberation Force] Party in the implementation of the National Charter in matters of economic, social, and cultural development;

--the exchange of ideas and experiences with regard to the struggle for national independence and the struggle for development, in the countryside and in the towns.

In regard to this political objective, it is appropriate to stress the preeminent leadership role of the party cells in the economic units that will have to impel, orient, and activate the twinning units.

/Economic Objectives:/ In the overall picture, the economic objectives are defined in terms of the effort to integrate agriculture and other economic sectors, and they are manifested by the functions and obligations which the nonagricultural sectors must fulfill vis-a-vis agriculture.

This effort at integration is, however, the special charge of the economic and administrative structures and institutions responsible for agriculture and the sectors concerned. It necessitates activities that are both of larger scope and better sustained.

The twinning is defined with economic objectives much more modest which should not be confused with those proper to the economic institutions concerned and still less with palliative policies designed to substitute for them.

In the current interpretation, the objectives of twinning are by nature noneconomic while nevertheless having an impact at the level of the twinned agricultural units.

Thus, the economic impact of twinning is going to consist in diverse activities programmed in accordance with operational needs or the needs of the agricultural unit, which could be:

/technical work:/ topographical surveys, land management plans, agricultural exploitation plans, plans for construction of sheds and buildings.

/repair and maintenance work/ on the equipment and agricultural machinery depot, mechanical and electrical maintenance.

--/improvement projects:/ desherbage [translation unknown], clearing the stones from land, reforestation, building of sheds, access roads, etc...

It is timely to mention and emphasize at the same time that the twinning operation is not aimed at what might be called accountable economic objectives.

Basically it is a question of organizing and bringing to bear the technical and material support needed for agricultural units to have the proper logistics, not to make up for them or replace them.

/Sociocultural Objectives:/ The sociocultural objectives are at the meeting-point of the imperatives of the agrarian and cultural revolutions.

This point of intersection reveals, first of all, that there is still more underdevelopment in the country than in the cities;

"It is true too that while the peasants continue to live in the historic cultural heritage which is proper to our identity and our personality, in the towns, by contrast, it is obvious that a certain rather vulgarized ambivalent "Culture", linked to a whole set of actions, gestures, and mental reflexes arising from the insidious ambiance of the styles of life and thought characteristic of French domination, secular and lower middle-class, continues to impregnate social behavior in the urban environment." (CP National Charter, Page 64).

Thus appears, in terms of twinning, the possibility of mobilization around the basic objectives of the cultural revolution intended to lead to the formation of a new man in a new society, with the development of the national personality and the collective identity, as well as the creation of a "balanced society in which each citizen is neither cut off from his roots nor kept on the margins of progress" (CP National Charter page 64).

The concrete activities in terms of a twinning program will involve:

- alphabetization and Arabization of adults and unschooled youth;
- the organization of conferences on cultural and political subjects;
- the organization of artistic activities.

The cultural activities envisaged as part of a twinning program will necessarily be associated with other social objectives in matters of hygiene and health which could consist in the organization:

- of conferences or proposed films on the health of mother and child and based on watchwords of preventive medicine.
- of involvement from time to time in vaccinations, preparations for going into maternity labor, etc.

Criteria of Twinning

To define the criteria of twinning is to identify the elements that should be considered decisive in terms of opting for it, but also at the same time to specify the limits of its field of action and to forestall improper operations of twinning.

If we say that it is the highest, most integrated and permanent form of the voluntary, that implies that it should be /selective/ and not universal.

/Selectivity/ implies that twinning should not be occasioned by activities of a sporadic character, limited in time, isolated activities, confined to only one economic or cultural pigeonhole linked to a limited-objective political campaign.

/Freedom of membership and democracy,/ should reign in the decisions of the economic cultural and social units concerned.

/Units proposed/ for twinning should be organically structured and of sufficiently high quality in terms of the FLN Party (workplace cell) and of the mass organizations concerned.

/The geographic position/ of units proposed for twinning should be situated in a single commune, a single daïra [translation unknown] and a single governorate in accordance with the size of the units and the numbers of peasants and workers.

/The choice of units/ to be twinned should take into account the /nature of the units;/ CAPRA [Agricultural Production Cooperative of the Agrarian Revolution], CAPCS [Communal Multi-Service Agricultural Cooperative], joint operational cooperative, self-administered domain in agricultural affairs, industrial units, commercial units, and service units.

/The advisory opinion of the tutelary administrations/ is necessary for any twinning operation.

Organization Programming

Four steps can be envisaged in terms of organization and programming

/a) Campaign of explanation and sensitization of militants/

This campaign is to be undertaken under the aegis of the councils of coordination of the governorate and communes, by the party cells, UGTA and UNPA and other mass organizations to sensitize and mobilize the militants around the objectives and criteria of twinning.

/b) Preparation:/

The militants proceed through the party cells, UNPA and UGTA to the study as well as evaluation of the human and material resources and to identification of twinning projects.

/c) Discussion and Adoption of Twinning Projects:/

First at the cell level and then at the level of the councils of coordination of the commune and the governorate.

/d) Programming and Mobilization:/

The adopted plans contain the twinning projects. Mobilization is effectuated through the establishment of brigades at the level of the units concerned.

The brigades will be created as specialized teams. The unit of time for the full execution of the twinning program is the agricultural year. The twinning program takes into account the characteristics of the academic and university year and the time of year in industry and the services that is best suited and meshed to the imperatives of the agricultural year.

Follow-up and Evaluation

--In terms of twinned units, coordination and coherence, activities are sanctioned monthly by the meetings of the chiefs of teams and brigades with the responsible officials of the FLN cells, UNPA, and UGTA.

--Every trimester the councils of coordination of the commune and the governorate review the activities in the framework of the twinning.

The objective of follow-up and evaluation is to watch over the implementation of the programs authorized as well as over proposed measures of improvement.

A continual evaluation, every trimester and for every governorate should be the responsibility of the commission of the voluntariate in the central committee.

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PUBLIC INDUSTRIAL SECTOR DISCUSSED

Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic 6 Oct 80 pp 26-32

[Article by Engineer Muhammad Taha Zaki Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources: "How Can the Public Industrial Sector Be Liberated?"]

[Text] For about a quarter of a century the public industrial sector has played a prominent role in the implementation of development projects in Egypt and has become the backbone of Egypt's economic structure. But there have been many obstacles and restrictions on the path which it has followed, and they have prevented it from achieving more progress.

For some time now discussions have been going on concerning how to liberate the public sector from these restrictions. These discussions, in the Ministry of Industry, have crystallized in the form of a draft law, for the development of the public industrial sector, which aims at encouraging Egyptian capital to participate in supplying capital for industrial companies.

The man responsible for this basic idea is Engineer Taha Zaki, the minister of industry. Here is what he has to say about it:

The Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth was established in July 1956 in order to assume the job of constructing a national industrial base which would support the economic and political independence of the Arab Republic of Egypt and be able to achieve a doubling of the national income so that economic prosperity would be achieved for all Egyptians.

The Need for Central Planning and Recording Its Implementation:

In order that the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth be able to achieve these two national goals, from the time that it was established the ministry has undertaken the responsibility of preparing industrial development plans and programs on the national level. In doing so, the ministry has followed a strategy of comprehensive central industrial planning. In this regard, there have been a number of basic considerations which the ministry has had to take into account. Here are some of them:

1. The necessity to concentrate on setting up basic industries as a firm base for Egypt's industry. Among the most important of these industries are the iron and

steel industry; the fertilizer industry; industries which produce construction materials, materials baked in kilns and furnaces, pipes, and rolled metal; industries which deal with non-ferrous metals such as copper and aluminum; and the various engineering industries.

2. The aim of this national industrialization planning is to change the framework of Egypt's commodity production from being that of an agriculture-oriented framework to being that of an integral economic framework. This is to be done while taking into account parallel growth between both the sector of industry and the sector of agriculture, and taking into account coordination between industry and the other economic sectors. In addition to this, one must bear in mind coordination between the various industrial sectors in the framework of the national industrialization plan.

3. Utilization of energy, the sources of which are distributed throughout the various areas of the country. This is something which cannot be achieved except by means of industrial planning on the national level. It involves the establishment of the fertilizer industry by means of utilizing electricity from the Aswan Reservoir, the aluminum industry by means of utilizing electricity from the High Dam, and the fertilizer industry by utilizing natural gas from the gas fields at Abu Qir.

4. Developing and supporting processing industries which rely upon local raw materials. At the head of the list here are the food industries, such as the sugar industry which depends on sugar cane and sugar beets; the textile industries, which depend on cotton and flax; the building materials industries producing cement and sand bricks, which depend on limestone, clay, gypsum, and sand; and the chemical industries such as those which produce nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers.

5. Industrial products cannot be distributed nation-wide unless industrial planning and implementation take place on the national level. This is the only way to meet the needs, in terms of various industrial products, of all of the masses of people in the various parts of the country. This is particularly true with regard to food supply, as in the case of sugar and edible oils; industrial cleaning agents and soap; and clothing supply, as in the case of fabric materials used for clothes worn by the Egyptian masses.

6. The setting up of industrial areas which embrace a number of industrial enterprises which constitute an integral industrial center providing a complete infrastructure of facilities such as means of transportation, housing, water, supply, electricity, and sewage cannot be achieved unless industrial planning and implementation take place on the national level.

7. Regional distribution of the industrial enterprises--to all of the provinces on sound economic bases such that each enterprise, in the region in which it is established, will have potential for success--cannot occur except by pursuing the method of comprehensive national industrial planning which is able to determine the most appropriate locations, from all economic and social points of view, in which to set up the industrial enterprises.

Today, a quarter of a century later, the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth is responsible for the planning and supervision of the public industrial sector which currently consists of 116 companies. They represent 5 different types of principal industrial sectors, and are distributed as follows:

There are 30 companies in the textile and clothing manufacturing sector, 21 companies in the food industry sector, 26 companies in the chemical industry sector, 31 companies in the sector including basic metal industries and their products, and 9 companies in the sector which includes the mining industry and the industry which produces materials baked in kilns and furnaces. Thus the above-mentioned shows that the state, since the establishment of the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth, has been oriented toward national industrial planning and this has been one of the principal factors which have helped to implement its industrial development plans and the establishment of large-scale enterprises engaging in large-scale production.

The Need For Centralized Industrial Planning In a Prosperous Egypt

National industrial planning, in years past, has been the foundation of industrial development in Egypt. Economic and social progress in the Egypt of the future will depend on the quantitative, qualitative, and technical development of Egyptian industry so that Egyptian industry, in addition to meeting the needs of the Egyptian masses, will also become an industry geared toward export, able to compete on the world market. The only way this can be achieved is to follow this method of national industrial planning.

We must bear in mind that the population of the Arab Republic of Egypt is expected to reach a figure of 66 million persons by the year 2000. What this means is that Egypt itself will be a large market which will require the establishment of industries which produce on a large scale in order to meet the needs of the country's growing population. The reason for this is that large-scale enterprises have numerous advantages over smaller ones--the most important advantages being reduction in costs and improved quality of production. This requires us to engage in industrial planning on the national level, not on the local, provincial level, because this will make it possible to set up enterprises which produce on a large scale. It is an indisputable fact that a national industrialization plan is the result of coordinating integral regional development plans which aim at extending development within the regions. As for the new cities which will be established in the desert and on the seacoasts, the industrial sector will constitute the basic core of their economy and social and technological growth and development.

Today, if we look at the framework of Egypt's national industrial structure, we see that there is still an eighth reason which stresses, now more than ever the need to adhere to and be committed to the strategy of central national industrial planning which the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth has been engaging in since it was established. This reason is the fact that industry has spread and the fact that industries are linked with each other. The best way for us to show the reality of this fact is to point it out in the following examples which we cite:

The Textile and Clothing Manufacturing Sector

We have already pointed out that this sector consists of 30 companies which are located in different provinces of the country. The sector's production is as follows:

Yarn of various categories--uncut cotton fabrics, processed cotton fabrics, woolen yarn, synthetic fibers, woolen fabrics, synthetic fiber fabrics, knitting yarn, and ready-made clothes as a final product.

All of these activities could be located in integrated central enterprises as is the case with the Egyptian Textile Co. in al-Mahallah al-Kubra which produces all of the types of materials mentioned above.

Or the activity engaged in in one company could require mutual cooperation with another company which engages in an activity which supplements the former. This is the case with the Egyptian Fine Textile Manufacturing Co. in Kafr al-Dawwar which produces and weaves cotton yarn, after which the yarn is processed in the Al-Bayda Egyptian Dyeing Co. This is also true of the Daqahliyah Textile Co. which only produces yarn and then supplies it to other associated companies in Zifta, Mit Ghamr, and other cities in other provinces.

There is also another example of a company which produces textiles and then has the textiles processed in another company which is located in another province. This is true of the Damietta Textile Co. which has its product processed in the Nasr Dyeing and processing Co. in al-Mahallah al-Kubra. In fact there are special enterprises which serve the public sector or private sector companies which are in their area. An example is the case of the Nasr Dyeing and Processing Co. in al-Mahallah al-Kubra and the Cairo Dyeing and Processing Co. in Shubra al-Khaymah.

Also, the Central Egypt Co. in al-Minya and al-Payyum produces cotton yarn which is then transformed into fabric materials in the Bani Suwayf Co., and then the materials are processed in one of the associated companies such as the Nasr Dyeing and Processing Co. in al-Mahallah al-Kubra, the Al-Bayda Egyptian Dyeing Co. in Kafr al-Dawwar, or the Cairo Dyeing and Processing Co. in Shubra al-Khaymah.

What this means is that there is a very clear interrelationship between these companies. There is also an interrelationship between this sector and the sector of chemical industries which supply the dyes, chemical materials, industrial goods, and assistance which enter into the processes of weaving, processing, and dyeing the fabrics. The Chemical and Dye Materials Co. in Kafr al-Dawwar meets the needs of the textile and clothing sector by providing the various dyes.

The Metal-Producing Industries Sector

This sector consists of 10 companies which are located in various provinces. Eight of these companies have to do with the iron and steel industry. The Egyptian Iron and Steel Co. in Hulwan supplies the other companies of the sector with semi-finished steel products such as:

Steel beams to the Egyptian Copper Co. in Alexandria, the Delta Steel Co. in Musturud, the National Co. in Abu Za'bal, the various private sector companies located in provinces throughout the country which produce rolled reinforcement iron, and enterprises engaging in construction work.

Cast iron for the foundries of public and private sector companies, and which is utilized in the production of cast parts which are used in engineering products and in sewage pipes.

Providing the Nasr Pipe Co. in Hulwan with the sheets of steel needed for making pipes, providing the Nasr Co., which manufactures cars and light means of transportation, with sheets of steel, providing the (Idyal) Delta Industry Co. with sheet metal for the production of refrigerators and washing machines, and providing the food industry companies with steel strips which are necessary for packaging their products.

Likewise, the companies in Cairo and Alexandria which produce metal products supply the construction sector with its needs in terms of the cast-iron pipes, coated basins, and bathtubs, the expansion in production of which goes along with the needs of the housing and urban development sector.

The Chemical Industries Sector

The chemical industries are considered to be one of the main foundations of industrial production in view of the fact that they are so closely involved with all industrial sectors. The chemical industries sector includes many industries, the products of which serve as raw materials for a great number of industries in other sectors. For example, the Egyptian Chemicals Co. in Alexandria produces caustic soda which is supplied to the artificial silk industry in the Artificial Silk Co. in Kafr al-Dawwar and the Industrial Firms Co. (Anku) in Shubra al-Khaymah. It is also considered to be the basic raw material for the manufacture of edible oils and soap in the companies of the food manufacturing sector which are located throughout the provinces of al-Gharbiyah, al-Daqahliyah, al-Minya, Sawhaj, and so on.

In the same company, chlorine derivatives also go into the processes of water purification in all of the water purification plants in the various provinces of the country. In addition to this, bleaching substances play a major role in the paper manufacturing industry, which is located in the provinces of Alexandria and Cairo, and they also play a major role in the textile sector. Also, sodium carbonates are produced as a raw material for the manufacture of glass in the province of al-Qalyubiyah and in the glass-manufacturing plants of the private sector.

The fertilizer companies, which are located in the provinces of Suez, Alexandria, Aswan, Hulwan, al-Qalyubiyah, and al-Gharbiyah, meet the needs of the agricultural sector, throughout the country, in terms of different types of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers.

The iron and steel sector depends on the coke which is produced by the Nasr Coke and Basic Chemicals Co. in Hulwan. This company also produces other products such as concentrated acids necessary for the manufacture of explosives which are utilized by the war industries sector.

The chemical industries sector is very closely linked to the transportation sector because it provides the latter with truck trailers, [frames] for motorcycles and bicycles, and tractor frames for use in agriculture. This industry is concentrated in the city of Alexandria. This sector also provides various rubber products. The most important of these are hoses for the sectors of irrigation, petroleum, and synthetic gases, as well as conveyor belts and driving belts for the sectors of iron and steel and the sector of mining.

Plastic products are mainly produced in the two plastic plants in Shubra al-Khaymah and Alexandria. They produce water pipes for the housing and irrigation sectors, and they supply the engineering industries sector with products which go into the manufacture of refrigerators, washing machines, radios, and television sets.

The plastics sector also meets our needs in terms of good supply. It provides plastic containers for packaging various food substances such as edible oils, sugar, and so forth. It also produces artificial leather which serves as an alternative to the natural leather which is used in the manufacture of shoes and other leather products. Likewise, the chemical industries sector is of service to various other sectors through its production of synthetic gases in the Synthetic Gas Co. in Musturud. Its enterprises are located in Cairo, Alexandria, Hulwan, and Aswan, and they supply their products to the sector of metal construction industries and the sector of the ship-building industry. Likewise, synthetic gases such as nitrous oxide are used for medical purposes in the various hospitals throughout the country. The carbonated water industry, whose plants are located in various provinces of the country, utilizes carbon dioxide which is produced by the company.

The chemical industries sector also includes the production of writing and printing paper. This paper is produced by the (Rakta) Co. in Alexandria, which thereby serves the sector of culture and education. Industrial paper is produced by the National Paper Co. in Alexandria and the (Simu) Co. in al-Qualyubiyah. This product is supplied to the food industries sector in order to cover its need for packaging and wrapping paper and the like.

In addition to this, paper and cardboard processing is done by the Muharram Industrial Press Co. and the (Frta) Paper Manufacturing Co. in Alexandria and al-Gharbiyah. These companies meet the needs of many industrial sectors such as the food industry sector, textile sector, engineering industries sector, and other sectors which require packaging and wrapping materials for the manufacture of cigarettes and packaging of food products. The most important products involved here are the various kinds of soap and the corrugated cardboard boxes which are necessary for the export of agricultural products such as oranges, fruits, and flowers.

As we can see from the above-mentioned, the chemical industries sector has companies and plants in various provinces which engage in different operations. We have seen that their products serve the needs of various other industrial sectors in addition to serving still other sectors of the national economy. Likewise, we have clearly seen the extent of the importance of the sector's products for the various areas of economic activity in the fields of production and services. In fact, this sector has had a great degree of influence on the growth of the other sectors.

If we look at the degree of involvement of chemical industries products in the other sectors, we clearly see how important it is to have a central body which coordinates the needs of the various sectors such as those of agriculture, transportation, irrigation, food supply, as well as the sectors of education and war production. This coordination cannot be achieved except by means of having a comprehensive view of the needs of these sectors, bearing in mind the growth of the country's population and economy.

Participating in the Stimulation of the Private Industrial Sector and in Supervising and Controlling It

The ministry also oversees the organized private industrial sector which is represented by enterprises, the capital of which exceeds 5,000 Egyptian pounds or the number of workers of which exceeds 10,000.

Together with the Ministry of Economy, Foreign Trade, and Economic Cooperation, the ministry is participating in making a study of the industrial enterprises being carried out, under the economic open-door policy, jointly with Arab and foreign capital.

Also the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth has the responsibility for overseeing the Federation of Industries, the Cotton Yarn and Fabrics Assistance Fund, and the Artificial Silk Assistance Fund.

The ministry's apparatus and public agencies which belong to it are carrying out these tasks as follows:

A. The following public agencies are participating in the planning and implementation of industrial enterprises:

1. The Public Industrialization Agency.
2. The Public Executive Agency for Industrial and Mining Complexes.
3. The Agency for Geological Survey and Mining Enterprises.

B. Two other public agencies are also participating:

4. The Criteria Standardization Agency.
5. The Nuclear Materials Agency.

The ministry also has government departments which undertake supervision and training:

1. The Industrial Supervision Department.
2. The Department of Productivity and Vocational Training.
3. The Chemical Department.

As has been mentioned, the apparatus of the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth, and the public agencies which are subordinate to it, carry out the work of planning, control, coordination, and supervision of implementation with regard to all of the industrial and mineral wealth sectors in all provinces of the country, regardless of whether or not they belong to the public sector, private sector, or operate jointly in both sectors.

There is no doubt that the preoccupation with the problems of economic growth which aim at national prosperity has acquired special priority as far as the policy of President Anwar al-Sadat's government is concerned. This requires bringing out the elements of an attitude which challenges these problems in the industrial sector in an effort to derive the points of equilibrium and the crossing points of intrusion within the framework of a system which is in harmony with the concept and content of Egypt's constitutional, political, and economic system.

First of all, public sector companies must be freed of government restrictions and direct supervision, whether centralized or non-centralized, as long as this does not violate the principle of national planning and control, and separating ownership from administration in public sector companies.

There is no dispute that the public sector is the one which contributes the most toward the gross national product. There is also no doubt that the difference between the public sector's actual productivity today, in comparison with the productivity which it is possible for the elements of production to achieve, is always attributable to government restrictions and government interference in the technical, financial, economic, and commercial administration of this sector's enterprises. The result of this is a decrease in production efficiency and a deterioration of the firmness of the economy which finds itself buried in the guidelines of the government. These government guidelines are very far removed from the reality of these economic enterprises, and this, in turn, has led to many of the well-known negative phenomena which have cropped up.

In this regard, the government restriction or interference is equally felt, whether it is central government interference on the part of the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth or local government interference on the part of the provincial government of the regions in which the industrial enterprise, or at least part of it, is located.

For this reason the public sector should be liberated so that ownership is separated from administration, and this will enable the administrative bodies to be guided by executive, technical, and economic principles of administration, as well as scientific and established administrative principles which are followed in the case of economic enterprises.

Freeing the administration of the public sector in this manner does not mean that it will escape guidelines of control, whether this involves commitment by this administration to achieve the goals assigned to it by the national industrialization plan, or with regard to its commitment to the principles of production efficiency, criteria standardization, industrial control, or the principles of protecting the environment from pollution, and other such principles observed by the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth. This liberation from government restrictions also does not mean not being committed to the principles of local regulations which have to do, for example, with security and public order. Likewise, this liberation from government restrictions does not mean that the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth will not adhere to its commitment to assume the burdens of national industrial planning. It does not mean, for example, that the province in which the enterprise is located will cease to be committed to undertaking, in all possible ways, to cooperate with, facilitate, and enable the administration of the industrial enterprises to achieve an increase in industrial productivity--including

the provision of the necessary utility services for the enterprise as well as solving local problems which the enterprise confronts.

Likewise, freeing the public sector and its administration from government restrictions in the manner described above shall not result in infringements or violations of the protection of public capital in an enterprise. On the contrary, the Public Accounting Office, Ministry of Finance, and Central Bank of Egypt--each in its area of competence and in accordance with established legislative principles--will continue to monitor the public sector administration. The public sector administration will be held to account for its errors in accordance with established economic principles or in accordance with legal principles, from both the civil and criminal codes, depending on the nature of these offenses.

The adoption and formation of holding companies, in the modern economic sense of the word, is something which can bring about an important change in the manner of formation of the national structure of economic activity as well as its administration, control, orientation, and development.

Secondly, Egyptian capital should participate in the development and renovation of public sector company enterprises and in helping them to expand.

The state should encourage Egyptian capital to contribute toward the economic development plan and to promote the national economy. In particular, Egyptian capital should be encouraged to share in the development and renovation of public sector company enterprises and in promoting their expansion. This could be done by establishing tax and customs exemptions and economic guarantees which could be in the form of guaranteeing a minimum capital investment yield which, for example, would be 1 percent higher than the current interest rate for time deposits. This guarantee should be limited to a time period which corresponds to the circumstances of each enterprise, and these exemptions and guarantees should be enjoyed by both the old and new shareholders.

This encouragement should be extended to all existing enterprises, the purpose being to develop, renovate, and expand them. It should be in the form of discounting the company's capital increase to the degree that will enable it to retain 51 percent of its public capital for establishing subsidiary companies which derive from the holding company or for establishing completely new enterprises. This, of course, must always occur within the framework of being in compliance with the national industrialization plan which is laid down by the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Wealth, in cooperation with the various economic sectors. Needless to say, regional planning also has a role to play in the establishment of national planning.

Concerning the policy of setting prices for industrial products, Engineer Taha Zaki had the following to say:

In terms of setting prices, industrial products are divided into two groups. They are:

1. Products sold at prices set by the government. Specifications and prices of these products are published in ministerial decisions and the companies are committed

to implementing them. These products are mostly products subsidized in the interests of the consumers. Examples of them are: fabric materials used for clothes worn by the Egyptian masses, sugar, edible oils, soap, artificial butter, fodder, and nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers (a whole list is enclosed).

2. The remaining products are not sold at prices set by the government. The basic policy with regard to them is that the board of directors of each company issues a decision to set their prices in accordance with the authority entrusted to them by Law No 111 of 1975, this being considered one of the elements of marketing policy. Determination of the prices takes place on the basis of the cost and profit which is in line with market demand and the extent to which the market can absorb the product.

The setting of the prices also has to be in line with the government's policy of controlling prices and achieving justice and a balance in the interests of the producers, those working in the distribution channels, and the consumers. The Ministry of Industry feels that the planning of the policy for determining the prices of industrial products should proceed as follows:

First of all, with regard to goods whose prices are set by government:

One must bear in mind that government intervention in the form of compulsory price-setting for some products emanates from the government's sovereign authority. The objective of this intervention is basically to protect consumers and to guarantee the availability of basic goods related to food supply, clothing supply, and housing. Usually the prices set by the government are lower than the cost of the products, and the state budget, for this reason, provides subsidies in the interests of the consumers.

One must also bear in mind that current price lists include some goods which do not fall under this concept since they correspond to non-basic needs on the part of the consumers, such as cigarette paper, drinking glasses, tanned leather goods, pencils, woolen yarn, and pressed wood.

If these products continue to be in the lists of goods whose prices are set by the government, this could lead to the state having to impose extra burdens on the public budget in terms of subsidies paid in the interests of consumers. For this reason, we feel that the following should be done:

1. Lists of goods whose prices are set by the government should be streamlined so that they do not include goods which do not correspond to basic needs.

2. It should not be allowed to manipulate the price of any item whose price has been set by the government, nor should the specifications of this item be modified without obtaining permission from the Ministry of Industry and without petitioning the Ministerial Production Committee and the Ministerial Committee for Economic Affairs.

3. The state should undertake to pay the total difference between the cost of producing the goods--adding to it a reasonable margin of profit--and the price set by the government at which the goods are to be sold. This can be accomplished in one of two ways:

A. These goods can be delivered from the factories to distribution outlets selected by the state which are appropriate for the marketing of each item. Such outlets would be, for example, the Agricultural Credit Bank, for fertilizers; and the agencies of the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade, for food and clothing items. And the prices should be economical. The subsidies should be put at the disposal of the marketing agencies, taking into consideration that the subsidies are established in the interests of the consumers and not in the interests of the manufacturing companies. This approach is the one preferred by the Ministry of Industry because it clearly defines the subsidies and fully directs them to those who are entitled to them.

3. The sale of goods at prices set by the government should be done by the industrial firms in accordance with what is decided by the state. The companies would recover the subsidy balances monthly in accordance with the procedure currently followed. We feel that if this approach is used, it should be used on a temporary basis and only during the fiscal year 1980-81.

Secondly, other products produced by industrial firms should not be sold at prices set by the government:

The authority for setting the prices of these products should rest with the administrative boards of the companies in accordance with law and coordination should be undertaken with the apparatus of the Ministry of Industry within the framework of the following guidelines:

1. First of all, there should be rationalization of costs, putting to work idle resources, improvement in productivity, and dealing with the problem of loss and ruin of raw materials--all of this in order to increase production and decrease production costs.

2. Standard specifications should be completely observed.

3. Prices should be determined on the basis of the rationalized costs of local and imported raw materials as well as the cost of services such as electricity, transportation, water, and wages.

4. The price set for a product should not be more than the cost of its imported counterpart, provided that the specifications are the same.

5. Industrial firms should commit themselves to publicly announcing the prices at which their goods are sold--in order to protect the consumers. This includes printing, on the containers, the sale price at which the item is sold to the consumers--together with the item's specifications, weight or size, the date it was produced, and the date until which the product can be used. All of this is in order to protect the consumer.

6. The company should give the ministry a complete report concerning the prices of its products in accordance with the decision made by its administrative board. The company should also inform the ministry of any modifications in the products after they have been submitted to the ministry for review, in accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines. Then the necessary rectifications can be undertaken in time.

In this manner a balance will be achieved for the producer (the industrial firms) since the producer will recover his production costs and will earn a reasonable profit, and since the producer will commit himself to rationalization, increased production, raising the workers' productivity, putting idle resources to work, maintenance of equipment, and combatting loss and ruin of raw materials.

Also, the consumers will be protected since they will obtain manufactured products at the lowest of two prices because the prices of any manufactured item will not be more than that of its imported counterpart. They will also be protected because the prices, specifications, weight, and other data concerning the items will be printed on their containers. In addition to this, those working in the distribution channels will earn their fair share of profit from the price which covers their costs and profit margin, and thus there will be no more possibility for exploitation.

As for the policy of providing subsidies, this policy guarantees that the subsidies will be used in the cases of basic goods and goods used by the masses--goods which the state wants to provide at lower prices in order to alleviate the suffering of the masses.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DATA

Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic 6 Oct 80 pp 38-42

[Economic data compiled from the Statistical Yearbook of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (October 1974, October 1977, July 1980): "Ten Years of Industrial Production"]

Development in Total Value of Industrial Production

(in millions of Eg. pounds at current prices)

Industrial activity	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Petroleum products and crude oil	133.2	152.2	155.2	178.4	263.9	385.7	574.9	696	848	2465
Mining products	---	12.1	11.0	12.6	21.2	22.4	23	27	30	35
Chemical and medicinal products	150.5	155.9	117.4	116.3 ¹	169.4	269	282	345	372	446
Food products	482.8	485.6	602.6	562.6	614.8	694	778	871	989	1140
Engineering and electrical products	232.3	235.6	245.4	245.0	201.0	394	447	554	666	824
Building materials and pottery and crockery products	88.0	59.7	61.6	65.0	73	94.0	76.3	82	81	84
Textile products	470.3	510.9	512.7	543.4	594.9	689.0	757	837	1099	1161

¹ Does not include the total value of the public sector's production of medicines and insecticides.

The compilation does not include production from government workshops or military production plants for the war effort, nor does it include the industries of cotton ginning, cotton pressing, milling grain, packaging tea, and printing and publishing.

Mineral Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Crude oil	1,000's of meters ³	16388	17010	12230	9706	8533	12999	19020	20.8 ²	24.3 ²	26.3 ²
Phosphates	1,000's of tons	716	713	564	553	612	518	500	568	639	587
Manganese	1,000's of tons	4	4	2	3	5	4	4	3	6	-
Iron ore	1,000's of tons	451	473	478	656	1302	1087	1243	1308	1468	1435
Table salt	1,000's of tons	454	421	383	437	514	664	606	741	755	728
Sulphur ¹	1,000's of tons	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-
Kaolin	1,000's of tons	22	45	25	33	28	35	30	47	46	42
Oxides (all types)	tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asbestos and vermiculite	tons	449	70	441	351	37	-	3165	784	882	536
Zinc ore and lead	tons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹Amounts shown are the total production from mines and petroleum products.

²In millions of metric tons.

Chemical Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Soap	1,000's of tons	136	150	154	143	183	219	227	218	230	245
Glycerin	tons	3019	3303	2941	2715	3122	1051	3757	4300	4018	12591
Industrial cleansers	tons	15155	400	17869	20406	16510	20606	21008	21854	22862	27552
Sulphuric acid	1,000's of tons	30	30	28	20	31	40	27	30	33	32
Caustic soda	1,000's of tons	20	18	16	14	30	37	27	28	31	37
Regular paper and card- board	1,000's of tons	162	155	151	147	130	144	-	153	165	169
Superphosphate fertilizer	1,000's of tons	411	487	518	419	464	518	463	513	494	483
Ammonium lime nitrate fer- tilizer(15.5%)	1,000's of tons	-	-	-	-	639	793	1085	1244	1386	1689
Ammonium lime nitrate fer- tilizer(26%)	1,000's of tons	-	30	-	-	-	61	95	5	-	-
Ammonium nit- rate lime fertilizer (31%)	1,000's of tons	382	350	288	209	253	293	282	509	301	-

Chemical Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Ammonium sul- phate ferti- lizer	1,000's of tons	4	5	4	4	7	9	7	11	11	13
Thomas phos- phate ferti- lizer	1,000's of tons	22	34	44	38	35	33	27	28	27	9
Outer tires (cars, bicy- cles, motor- cycles)	1,000's	807	622	927	860	814	922	760	921	858	933
Inner pipes (cars, bicy- cles, motor- cycles)	1,000's	757	817	897	876	761	988	965	1075	901	1011
Rubber products	1,000's	3574	3787	3837	4493	4708	5716	5597	6034	6232	6043
Pencils	Eg. pds 1,000's	307	250	-	-	110	377	484	413	215	153
Oxygen	Eg. pds 1,000's	570	660	665	616	617	629	674	701	721	670
(astlin)	1,000's meters	744	907	1105	898	860	916	995	1174	1216	1121
Chlorine	1,000's of tons	5	5	5	3	4	5	5	5	4	6
Carbon dioxide	1,000's of tons	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	5 ^v	6	5

Chemical Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Insecticides	1,000's of tons	4	6	9	8	12 ¹	19 ¹	8	7	7	9
Tanned leather goods	1,000's of tons	10	11	15 ¹	17 ¹	20	23	22	21	18	40
Glue	1,000's of tons	1	1	-	2	1	2	2	2	3	3
	millions of Eg. pounds										
Medicines	millions of Eg. pounds	33	40	46	54	58	60	76	108	113	125
	millions of Eg. pounds										
Cosmetics	billions of match- sticks	5	6	8	9	10	20	21	22	28	35
Matches		34	40	42	35	36	42	46	64	54	54

¹ [Translator's note: There is no footnote in the original corresponding to the footnote numerals in the table]

Quarry Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Granite	1,000's ³ of meters	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	3	2	2	2	2
Basalt	1,000's ³ of meters	367	332	401	329	-	48	47	90	99	85
Marble	1,000's ³ of meters	4	6	7	7	8	8	12	12	23	26
Limestone	millions ³ of meters	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
Regular sand	millions ³ of meters	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	6	7	6
Gravel	millions ³ of meters	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2
White sand	1,000's ³ of meters	67	138	113	120	120	120	120	120	115	147
Clay	1,000's ³ of tons	975 ²	923	896	900	950	950	1000	986	1085	950
Raw gypsum	1,000's ³ of tons	259 ²	212	239	219	216	213	200	250	593	796
Pumice stone	1,000's ³ of tons	-	-	-	-	-	120	125	113	124	85
Sandstone	1,000's ³ of tons	81	86	93	102	110	110	120	101	111	787 ³
Dolomite	1,000's ³ of tons	91	88	90	100	100	110	110	118	130	504

¹Less than 500 cubic meters.

²In thousands of tons.

³In thousands of cubic meters.

Most Important Products Necessary for Building and Construction

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Sheet and crystal glass	1,000's of tons	15	21	21	24	16	20	23	21	19	27
Safety glass	tons	892	738	682	879	903	877	1026	1006	953	978
Porcelain	tons	2654	3976	2770	2612	1863	1917	1413	3625	3525	3873
Sanitary utensils	tons	7314	8539	9975	10320	6892	6809	3946	3991	4475	4874
Ceramic bricks	1,000's of tons	-	60	67	81	85	87	79	82	84	97
Earthenware pipes	1,000's of tons	13	19	27	27	20	18	18	13	15	14
Concrete pipes and products	1,000's of tons	38	22	50	43	39	38	37	41	38	32
Asbestos pipes and sheets	1,000's of tons	62	64	68	57	56	66	69	79	77	80
Baked bricks	millions	770	762	773	743	500	600	500	173 ¹	300	190
Sand bricks	millions	17	20	42	58	70	43	32	38	63	65
Cement slabs	millions ³ of meters	2	2	3	4	-	2	3	4	4	5
Gypsum and plaster	1,000's of tons	346	412	238	369	363	425	251	264	325	-

¹ In thousands of tons.

Most Important Products Necessary for Building and Construction (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Regular port- land cement	1,000's of tons	2193									
White portland cement	1,000's of tons	42	3921	3822	3617	3264	3579	3362	3232	2722	2987
Iron cement and (krnk)	1,000's of tons	1024									

Food Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Glucose	1,000's of tons	38	38	40	43	41	39	43	47	37	35
Treacle	1,000's of tons	48	50	52	54	63	60	60	62	74	74
Chocolate	tons	1885	2579	2481	1214	992	1752	2231	3893	4169	4577
Dough	1,000's of tons	56	60	61	62	71	74	79	89	97	100
Dried vegetables	tons	4039	4852	2826	4106	6614	4907	5250	7260	5203	5272
Fruits	tons	-	-	-	-	71	14	29	20	26	26
Sweets	1,000's of tons	55	66	70	69	59	66	63	65	64	60
Alcohol	millions of liters	32	32	32	31	29	32	30	32	30	24
Cottonseed oil	1,000's of tons	126	118	145	131	149	157	151	167	171	177
Flaxseed oil	1,000's of tons	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	5	5	5
Cottonseed oil cakes	1,000's of tons	599	567	581	609	536	472	356	438	430	442
Molasses	1,000's of tons	262	259	27	260	237	253	293	302	274	309
Cigarettes	millions of cigarettes	-	16500	16159	20582	18442	20863	23248	25032	27558	29931
Tobacco products	tons	-	-	-	-	2997	2974	3022	2892	3219	3552

Food Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Full-cream white cheese	1,000's of tons	125	125	126	127	127	121	134	138	147	155
Cooked, dried cheese	tons	7679	7925	9120	7632	7635	9960	12696	12886	15147	14223
Pasteurized milk	1,000's of tons	29	33	31	38	42	41	54	69	73	70
Artificial butter	1,000's of tons	64	69	72	88	100	132	128	133	151	160
Canned sardines	tons	1271	1372	2091	2577	2273	2769	3969	3376	3927	4683
Canned tomato sauce	tons	1235	1648	1084	1853	1748	2872	2950	2709	5838	3911
Canned vegetables	tons	3272	5748	4882	7732	4111	5606	9602	9739	7999	4412
Yeast	tons	7017	6971	7607	8196	7933	9167	9498	10083	10932	11863
Carbonated water	millions of bottles	592	618	660	586	660	782	958	1182	1390	1424
Cornstarch	1,000's of tons	15	16	16	19	18	18	18	19	18	18
(mult)	1,000's of tons	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	-	-

Food Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Vinegar	millions of liters	4	5	6	7	6	8	9	10	10	11
Beer	millions of liters	24	28	30	32	29	29	30	38	42	34
Wine	1,000's of liters	5899	5424*	5592*	3413*	1427*	1955	1089	1283	1662	-
Spirits	1,000's of liters	7282	11832	15516**	12680**	9572**	680	645	640	621	636

* In thousands of liters.

** In tons.

Most Important Metal Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Semi-formed iron blocks	1,000's of tons	22	20	13	9	2	3				
Steel sections	1,000's of tons	114	105	92	88	78	101	113	143	145	151
Sheet metal and plates	1,000's of tons	41	40	43	43	39	42	46	34	41	50
Cast iron	1,000's of tons				50	210	99	92	70	66	119
Reinforcement iron	1,000's of tons	135	210	239	234	262	212	228	248	261	302
Nails	1,000's of tons	7*	9*	-	-	8	9	9	9	9	-
Wire	1,000's of tons	14	20	14	15	16	21	17	15	18	21
Automobiles	number	3590	5750	5380	5591	9639	11514	9877	13997	13833	15670
Trucks	number	1164	1484	1709	1518	815	935	1370	1690	1173	2304
Busses and chassis	number	369	349	362	314	301	305	373	475	468	592
Tractors	number	1192	937	1237	1143	1259	1241	1664	2761	2925	2783
Air conditioners	number	1455	1548	1323	2229	2606	3617	6779	8436	11445	14056
Refrigerators	1,000's	54	62	55	39	59	115	115	135	146	207

* Includes only wire nails.

Most Important Metal Products (contd.)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Washing machines	1,000's	16	16	29	26	31	44	71	126	228	273
Bicycles	1,000's	60	52	57	31	46	72	72	91	85	91
Diesel engines	1,000's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Eg. pds	-	-	-	-	1346	2922	4711	4488	4014	-
LPG heaters	1,000's	12	11	-	-	8	16	16	19	18	18
	1,000's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RR cars	Eg. pds	2586	2819	3851	3660	3700	6726	10522	11140	13511	16344
LPG stoves	1,000's	53	85	-	115	4845	5381	5973	6903	7560	9421
High-pressure pipes	tons	4366	4520	6305	7198	5775	2248	5413	4764	5805	4950
LPG cylinders	1,000's	155	126	-	-	134	202	241	294	305	366
	1,000's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sewing machines	Eg. pds	184	354	-	293	440	283	487	477	314	375
Metal construction	1,000's	3547	1536	3461	5809	6804	7425	9411	9538	12260	12825
	Eg. pds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metal furniture	1,000's	3965	4691	5397	5580	5752	7971	9970	9692	11053	13120
	Eg. pds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expanded metal	1,000's	64	121	113	126	151	172	143	166	209	329
	Eg. pds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
River navigation, construction, and ship repair units	1,000's	-	4574	5082	5432	5336	6936	7893	7193	10612	17505
	Eg. pds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Most Important Metal Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Circular water pumps	1,000's Eg. pds	112	104	107	105	113	135	140	294	360	357
Steel foundry products	tons	2613	-	3554	4036	2780	5542	1781	1775	1583	2091
Explosives	1,000's Eg. pds	85	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Copper products	1,000's of tons	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lead products**	1,000's of tons	7	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	4	4
Aluminum products	1,000's of tons	7	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zinc containers	1,000's Eg. pds	69	60	-	-	751	579	405	336	-	-

** Products included here are rolled and drawn lead for molds and lead sealing materials for workshops.

*** In thousands of tons. [Translator's note: There is no triple asterisk in the table in the original.]

Textile Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Cotton yarn	1,000's of tons	164	171	179	183	179	181	193	210	212	216
Cotton fabrics	1,000's of tons	-	779 ¹	708 ¹	722 ¹	733	782	563	595	604	610
Woolen yarn	1,000's of tons	10	11	12	11	11	12	11	12	10	11
Woolen textiles	1,000's of tons	8 ¹	9 ¹	9 ¹	9 ¹	7	9	12	10	10	10
Artificial silk yarn	1,000's of tons	7	7	7	6	5	6	6	6	5	5
Artificial silk fabrics	1,000's of tons	-	5	54 ¹	55	52	34	35	36	48	52
Jute yarn	1,000's of tons	27	28	26	28	32	36	37	38	34	39
Jute textiles	1,000's of tons	28	28	24	25	31	32	33	34	29	31
Blankets, rugs, and kilim carpets	1,000's of meters ²	6595	8236	7968	8220	8322	8 ²	11 ²	12 ²	14 ²	16 ²
Crochet work (cotton)	millions of dozens	2	3	-	-	1233	898	975	784	417	602

¹The fabrics were made from the various types of yarn shown in the table.

²In millions of meters.

Most Important Electrical Products

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Electricity production	billions of kW	-	8	8	8.1	9	10.4	11.5	13.5	15.0	16.3
Reinforced cables	tons	-	5218	6644	3637	4254	6466	6514	7867	7174	-
Uncovered electrical wires and cables	tons	-	-	22895	16787	17948	23010	22586	25458	28604	30875
Electric meters	1,000's	140	139	-	116	144	153	153	154	154	185
Liquid-cell batteries	1,000's	309	417	466	462	458	578	673	687	696	734
Radio batteries	1,000's	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
¹ Millions of kW											
Dry-cell illumination batteries	millions	67	89	82	90	5816 ¹	6226 ¹	128	126	76	90
(Bergmann) insulator pipes	tons	-	4200 ¹	5737 ¹	3260 ¹	1536	54	1518	1497	1847	3920
Electric light-bulbs	1,000's	14856	19622	17400	16500	20 ³	23 ³	23 ³	23 ³	33 ³	40 ³

¹ In thousands of meters.

² In thousands of Egyptian pounds. [Translator's note: The original contains no footnote numeral in the table for this footnote.]

³ In millions.

Most Important Electrical Products (contd)

Product	Unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Electric heaters	1,000's	5	4	25	39	40	45	62	41	62	63
Electric switchboards	number	986	1087	1667	1686	1719	1267	1825	2131	3650	-
Electric phonographs	1,000's	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	(3)	(3)	-
Regular radios and transistor radios	1,000's	148	122	164	148	158	221	117	265	368	223
Telephones	1,000's	64	67	76	49	71	85	88	151	174	249
Phonograph records	1,000's	-	839	-	663	721	530	169	143	87	-

Most Important Petroleum Products

(in thousands of tons)

Product	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Gasoline	360	695	859	961	1225	1335	1476	1524	1711	1763
Kerosine	490	740	976	1158	1335	1294	1439	1502	1652	1640
Torbanite										
	456	749	962	1034	1149	1469	1717	1961	2190	2280
Diesel oil	98		157	165	178	138				
Mazut	1612	2572	3213	3050	2831	4165	5056	5254	5437	5536
LPG	9	7	18	43	62	49	59	64	72	99
Asphalt	58	73	113	143	67	118	135	148	193	211

JUMAYYIL HOPES FOR 'UNDERSTANDING' FROM U.S. ADMINISTRATION

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 10-16 Nov 80 pp 34-41

[Interview with Bashir Jumayyil, commander of Phalangist Party militia, by Lydia Georgi, date and place not given]

[Excerpts] The following is a translation of the full interview, which was conducted in French:

The general impression is that the Ain Remmaneh incidents, coming after the July 7 operation, have dealt a heavy blow to the Phalangist-NLP alliance - an impression which has tended to be confirmed by the contradictory statements issued by Sheikh Pierre and President Chamoun on Army presence in Lebanese Front areas. Do you think this alliance can survive, despite the Phalangist Party's proven military superiority?

The action undertaken by the Lebanese Forces on July 7 and the recent Ain Remmaneh clashes were not a test of one party's power against another; they were an operation intended to remedy the situation in the liberated areas, restore order and unify the Lebanese Forces. The NLP-Phalangist alliance emerges from this operation stronger than ever, the proof being the visit I paid President Chamoun yesterday (Tuesday), which will be followed by important measures to consolidate the Lebanese Forces.

How do you explain the contradictory statements issued by Sheikh Pierre and President Chamoun on Army presence in Ain Remmaneh?

I think the nuances that may have appeared in the few hours that followed the Ain Remmaneh incidents have now been totally cleared up. We have already held several meetings with President Chamoun on this issue and even on the question of the reinforcement of the Lebanese Forces. I think those nuances have definitely been eliminated.

Are you in agreement on Army presence in Ain Remmaneh? You don't accept Army presence there. Has President Chamoun changed his mind?

I think President Chamoun goes even further than us on this matter.

Would you elaborate? In what way does he go further?

We are in total agreement that the Army has a specific role to play in Ain Remmaneh. The Army was in no way able to stop the wave of banditry and vandalism which was sweeping Ain Remmaneh, and we were compelled to do that ourselves. Now we all say that if the Army wants to be present, let it be present on the demarcation line. If it wants to deploy inside Ain Remmaneh, let it first take over the airport, Damour

and West Beirut. It has all that to take over first.

We would like to know the opinion of Mr. Wazzan on what is happening in West Beirut now. Why doesn't the Army have the right to intervene there? Why doesn't he ask himself what is going on in West Beirut?

Do you object to the deployment of the Army inside Ain Remmaneh if the Army troops that were present there are changed? If so, why? In other words, why do you want to keep the Army on the "front lines" of Ain Remmaneh?

What does the Army have to do inside Ain Remmaneh? What would it have to do inside Ashrafiyeh? or Jounieh? or Jbail? What it should do is take it upon itself to liberate the country from the alien forces occupying it: it should deploy in Damour, Aishiyeh and every other place where alien armed forces are present on the ground, defying State authority.

It is therefore a normal thing for the Army to handle the front lines and areas of Ain Remmaneh.

What do you mean by "the front lines and areas"?

I mean the front lines of the Ain Remmaneh area. That is where the Army should be present, if it wants. If it is too cowardly to handle them, we can handle them ourselves. We handled them for six years.

Would you accept an Army take-over of the Ain Remmaneh centers previously controlled by the NLP, as President Chamoun has demanded?

I have already answered this question.

Do I understand you to mean that you would not accept an Army take-over of the centers previously controlled by the NLP?

It is not the Army's role to be inside Ain Remmaneh. As long as Damour and Aishiyeh are occupied, the Army has no bloody business inside Ain Remmaneh.

How do you explain the fact that the Army did not intervene to stop the Ain Remmaneh clashes, especially since they must have known that this would lead to more attacks on the Army Command and would further undermine the credibility of the military establishment in the eyes of leftist and Moslem forces, and even President Chamoun himself?

Put that question to Victor Khoury. He is in a better position to answer you.

May I have your own explanation?

Yes. While maintaining my first answer, I think that an army without motivation and without a cause is an army which cannot fight. The Army cannot intervene in Ain Remmaneh for the same reasons that have prevented it from fighting the Palestinian and Syrian occupation. This is an army of salaried men and military parades. The command, starting with Victor Khoury, has done everything it can to neutralize the Army and make it an army of military parades. This is not a fighting army, because there is no faith whatever at the command level in what is being done. There is no conviction, no spirit of responsibility whatsoever at the level of the high command.

So you are saying that it is the Army which refused to intervene?

It cannot intervene, because of the vicissitudes and contradictions existing in it.

You say that your meeting with President Chamoun will be followed by "important measures to consolidate the Lebanese Forces." Could you give us an idea of those measures?

Certainly. They could involve the dissolution of the Kataeb (Phalangist) Military Council and the militias of the other organizations which are members of the Lebanese Forces. We would then be able to move from the stage of synchronization to the stage of merger. I think that is the stage we are now studying.

Does that mean that the other militias will be disbanded and that only the Phalangist militia will remain?

We will dissolve the Kataeb Military Council and the militias belonging to the other organizations, so that all the Lebanese military potential can merge into one military organization, which will be the Lebanese Forces. We have so far contented ourselves with synchronization among the various military institutions, but now we will have a total merger. All militias will be dissolved and there will be only one Lebanese force.

Is that what you discussed with President Chamoun?

President Chamoun will declare this himself.

Is there any possibility of a meeting between you and Dany Chamoun?

For my part, that presents no problem whatsoever. Dany is a young man alongside whom we have fought for several years, and his place is among us. I myself have no problem with him.

Don't you think the fact that the Phalangists have demonstrated a

The new Lebanon should be a democratic, liberal country which is not shared with the Palestinians and in which equality, security and freedom of belief is guaranteed for everyone

clear military superiority can have repercussions on your allies?

I have two remarks to make about this:

The first is that the July 7 and Ain Remmaneh operations were not undertaken by Phalangist troops as such, but by the Lebanese Forces — under the command and cover of the Lebanese Forces. It was by no means a settling of accounts between parties. Therefore, what was done must be credited to the Lebanese Forces, not to one party at the expense of another. The proof of this is that the Kataeb Military Council is on the point of being dissolved so that the Kataeb forces can merge with the other Lebanese forces.

The second remark is that our allies have understood this point. It is undeniable that the July 7 and Ain Remmaneh affairs, in the final analysis, were rather unfortunate episodes. We must all get together to extract only the good aspects of what has happened, and I think that is what we are doing now.

You say the Kataeb Military Council is "on the point of being

dissolved." Does that mean it will be dissolved in the very near future?

Perhaps before this issue of *Monday Morning* is published.

Who will be the commander of the Lebanese Forces then?

The commander will be appointed by Sheikh Pierre and President Chamoun.

Will it be you?

They can choose me or someone else. They can choose whoever they want. There's no problem at all as far as I'm concerned.

Then there will be no Phalangist militia, no NLP militia, no Guardians of the Cedar militia...

The Lebanese Army will be automatically allowed into the rightist areas if it deploys in the leftist areas, but not until then

That will all be finished. Militarily, there will be only the Lebanese Forces. We don't want any more July sevens. To avoid that, and to avoid a situation similar to the one currently prevailing in West Beirut (where every four or five armed hoodlums make their own law in their own quarter), we will all merge under one command.

After the meeting of the Higher Defense Council on Monday, there have been reports that the Defense Law's pending decrees will be issued soon. — a development which would presumably make the deployment of the Army in both

parts of Beirut possible. What would your position be in that event? Would you accept Army control over all your areas if Army control is accepted in the leftist-dominated parts of Beirut?

We have always affirmed that the Army must be deployed in all Lebanese regions to extend State authority and sovereignty over them. It remains for the people responsible in the Army to want to take charge of maintaining order and security in all Lebanese regions and to firmly exercise their authority in those regions — which, unfortunately, was not the case in Ain Remmaneh.

If the Defense Law decrees are issued, and if as a result the leftist alliance withdraws its objection to Army presence in its areas, will you automatically accept Army presence in your areas?

From now on, we will accept the Army only to the extent that it intervenes in other areas.

So if Army deployment becomes possible in the leftist-controlled areas, you will automatically accept the Army in your areas?

Yes, automatically. And if it also wants to come into our homes, why not? Let it come to every hole where it is not present.

Many charges have been made against you personally and the Phalangist Party in general after the July 7 and Ain Remmaneh operations, and we would like your answer to each of these charges. There is, for instance, the charge that the Phalangist Party is consolidating its hold on its areas in preparation for the declaration of an independent Christian state under its leadership (as Egyptian President Anwar Sadat said last week).

You are free to believe the lucubrations of Mr. Sadat. As for us, we have affirmed a thousand times that the establishment of a Christian state is out of the question. The idea of a

Christian state is self-contradictory. Furthermore, we really don't feel like cutting ourselves off from the entire Arab hinterland.

It has also been charged that the Phalangist Party intends to co-operate with Israel to trap the Palestinians in a military "pincer" operation, with the Israelis attacking from the south and you attacking from the north.

Perhaps the Palestinians have an interest in spreading these rumors to justify their armed presence in Lebanese regions where they should not be present.

There is also the charge that your next step will be a military operation to take over Hazmieh and Baabda.

I have the impression that everybody knows more about our military secrets than we do. They attribute to us military intentions that we are very far from imagining. *Il est vrai qu'on ne prête qu'aux riches* (it is true that only the rich are envied).

How would you explain the fact that the Ain Remmaneh incidents coincided with the formation of the new government? Is there any link between the two?

If there is a link, it was established not by us but by the usual trouble-makers, whom everybody knows.

Do you think there is a link...

This is all a figment of Wazzan's imagination — the timing and the relation between the two.

Don't you think those developments contributed to the embarrassment of the new government?

That is the government's problem. Whether it is embarrassed or not is the least of our worries. We have stated that we are in no way concerned with what this government can do.

What is your exact position on the

new government? What government would you support in the present circumstances?

I have already stated that we care nothing about the governments that are formed or unformed in the framework of a political system which has proven to everyone's satisfaction that it is unadapted to the real needs of the country.

Do I understand you to mean that you will not support any government as long as the present political system is maintained?

You understand me very well.

You have repeatedly stated that "the old Lebanon" will never return, which has led many to the conclusion that you have an idea of what "the new Lebanon" should be like. Assuming that partition is out of the question, what kind of Lebanon are you fighting for? A federation? A confederation? ...

I am fighting first against the alien forces which are occupying a significant part of the country. I am fighting for a sound conception of the state based on concrete givens, instead of the current awkward application of constitutional rules imported from abroad. Federation or not, the formula would be of little importance if there were real entente among the different Lebanese families — entente sealed by joint action agreed upon by the residents. I have already said, on more than one occasion, that entente is not a text or a piece of paper but a spirit and an action.

What is this "sound conception of the state based on concrete givens"?

We will not announce it now. We will not talk about it as long as the country is under double occupation. Let us first liberate, and then we can state what we want in terms of a constitutional system or anything else.

But the major principles, certainly, are these: a democratic, liberal country where everyone is equal; a country where everyone has security; a country in which each of us is free in his convictions and beliefs; a country which we do not share with the Palestinians. We will fight to block the partition that the Americans and Palestinians are trying to impose on us.

These are the major principles. We'll see about the details later.

Your emphasis on military strength gives the impression that you are expecting a military solution of the Lebanese problem. Is the impression justified? Are those who are fearing another military trauma in Lebanon right to do so? Or can you visualize a peaceful solution through negotiations with the anti-Phalangist Christians, the Lebanese Moslem community and the Palestinians?

We are open to any form of negotiations with any side — even the Palestinians, if this can lead to persuading them to leave the country.

Does this mean that you are not ready to negotiate with the Palestinians unless you have prior as-

surances that the goal will be their departure from Lebanon?

Certainly, because it is out of the question to negotiate with them with a view to giving them a part of Lebanon so they can turn it into an alternative homeland, as the Americans want.

Do you have any idea where you want the Palestinians to go?

Let them go wherever they want. That is their problem, not ours.

Doesn't the fact that you will not negotiate unless you receive prior assurances rule out negotiations?

That is why we have been unable to conduct any serious negotiations over the past six years.

You seem to be at odds with President Chamoun on this point. He says he is ready to accept the Palestinians in Lebanon for a certain period...

For a certain period. That means he too wants them to leave, so we are in agreement.

I am under the impression that you want them to leave now.

Don't you? At any rate, I don't think I have any differences with President Chamoun on this issue.

You made a statement in a speech last week which was regarded as critical of the Pope — something to the effect that His Holiness must not imagine that Lebanon is a testing ground for Moslem-Christian coexistence. Is the quote accurate? If so, do we take it to mean that (1) you disapprove of the Vatican's attitude toward the Lebanese crisis, and (2) you are against experiments in Moslem-Christian coexistence in Lebanon?

I would not address the least criticism to His Holiness, whom I hold in great respect and veneration. Where Moslem-Christian experiments are concerned, we have applied various forms of Moslem-Christian coexist-

We are ready to serve once more as a testing ground for Moslem-Christian coexistence, on condition that this be done free of any foreign interference

ence and we are ready to serve once more as a testing ground for this co-existence — on condition that this be done *in vitro*, free of any foreign interference. In fact, what is preventing the success of this experiment is the pressure of Arab irredentism which neighboring states are exerting on Lebanon. It is our hope that the Vatican and other friendly states will stop or reduce this pressure by taking action with the third states concerned, rather than contenting themselves with giving us advice from a distance.

So the quote attributed to you is accurate?

It is accurate. It is not, however, directed against the person of the Pope but against the Vatican's policy on the problem of the Christians of Lebanon. When we take into consideration the fact that Paul VI once allowed himself to weep in St. Peter's Square over the fate of "the poor Palestinians" as Damour was being massacred, we have the right to make this remark.

What exactly do you want the Vatican and other friendly states to do?

I want them to understand us. We are only asking for their understanding.

You have demanded that they take action with third states to stop pressures...

We want them to understand us and explain our point of view. We are hoping that now, after the election of the new American President, the point of view of the Lebanese Resistance will be better understood (in the U.S.) — because we have so far been coming up against a blank wall, both at the American embassy in Beirut and with the American Administration in Washington. We hope that this wall will now be brought down and that the U.S. will from now on show much more under-

standing toward us and toward all its friends.

Do you have any indications that U.S. policy will change, or are you just hoping for a change?

There may be some indications. There are indications that the new American Administration will understand what is happening here better.

And do what?

The United States is a major power. It knows better than us what should be done to save this country from the nightmare into which it has been plunged.

Do you think the Syrian-Soviet treaty will have any effect on Syrian presence in Lebanon, and do you think the Syrian-Phalangist dialogue that was started a few months ago will be resumed?

I personally don't see how the Syrian-Soviet treaty can concern Lebanon. For the rest, we remain open to any dialogue.

Under what circumstances do you envisage a resumption of the Phalangist-Syrian dialogue? What steps should precede a resumption of the dialogue?

If it's steps you're talking about, these are now being explored. The ground is being explored. Don't forget that we waged a war of resistance against Syrian occupation in 1978, and there are many disputes between us and the Syrian authorities.

If you're talking about pre-conditions, we don't have any and we will accept none from anyone. The ground is being explored, and we reject pre-conditions from either side.

We want the Vatican to understand us and explain our point of view

The resolutions of the Second World Maronite Conference stress the "distinct identity" of the Maronites and demand that the Maronites be given "the right to be distinct." How does that translate into practical terms.

In these times when everyone is seeking roots for himself, it is only natural that the Maronites should want to underscore their special character in order to preserve their identity.

Does "the right to be distinct" carry political implications?

Not the implications you're thinking of, at any rate. We are against the partition of this country; we are against the establishment of a Christian or Maronite entity in Lebanon. We are fully aware that would be a fatal mistake. We will fight any partitionist idea or any idea which could lead to the creation of a sectarian mini-state on part of Lebanon's territory.

This, however, does not preclude a new political system - within the legal constitutional framework, and within the internationally recognized Lebanese borders - which would constitutionally guarantee freedom and security for each Lebanese entity living in Lebanon.

The Maronite Conference, therefore, is by no means aimed at the creation of a Maronite nation or the partition of the country. On the contrary, it unconditionally supports the Lebanese Resistance in its struggle against the partition which the Palestinians and Americans are trying to impose. But within the internationally recognized borders, we have the right to live in total freedom and security. That is what the resolution of the Maronite Conference means.

Mr. Raymond Edde has charged that the lobby with which the Lebanese Forces are associated in Washington is a "Lebanese-Israeli lobby which has nothing Lebanese

The take-over of Hazmieh and Baabda is 'a military intention that we are far from imagining'

about it other than its name."

Would you tell us if there are links between you and the Israeli lobby in the U.S.?

Who can take Raymond Edde seriously anymore?

There are other people who have made the same charge.

Other than Raymond Edde? Who else, for instance? No one.

So you deny the charge?

You know, these are Byzantine discussions which have absolutely no effect on us and are of no importance whatsoever as far as we're concerned. These accusations mean nothing to us, and it would really be a waste of time to discuss them. •

NEW SECURITY MEASURES FOR WEST BEIRUT

Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 15 Nov 80 pp 5-6

[Text] Lebanese official sources commenting on the new security measures that were adopted this week by the Lebanese leftist National Movement (an alliance of Lebanese leftist and progressive parties) said that the main conclusion to be drawn is that from now on security in the western quarters of Beirut will be the responsibility and privilege of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF).

The measures that were adopted in the wake of violent clashes between the Independent Nasserite Movement (Mourabitoun) and the National Syrian Social Party (NSSP, formerly known as Parti Populaire Syrien, PPS) had been obstructed by several members of the National Movement for a long time on the grounds that security matters should not be entrusted to non-Lebanese sides.

New Measures. The Executive Committee of the National Movement's Central Council announced on November 10 that it had decided to close down all offices and centers belonging to the various member-parties, and to maintain open only the headquarters of these parties.

The committee also decided to eliminate all military manifestations by preventing armed elements and para-military cars from moving about in Beirut's western quarters. It also decided to close down all Palestinian offices located outside Palestinian camps.

Assessment. The fact that the new measures give the PLO and the ADF, but especially the PLO, the upper hand in security matters in west Beirut is expected to increase the strain between Palestinian resistance organization and Lebanese leftist organizations that have recently grown more resentful of the PLO, observers said.

National Movement leader Walid Jumblot, the president of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) had repeatedly denounced the laxity existing in West Beirut and the abuses suffered by the population due to the fact that too many organizations and armed elements were allowed to carry out whatever activities they wanted. His statements, at the time, were accompanied by calls for the unification of the National Movement and for the entry of the Lebanese Army in West Beirut.

The Mourabitoun, on the other hand, had recently clashed with Palestinian organizations over which side should be in charge of security matters in various parts of West Beirut. However, there was no accord between the PSP and the Mourabitoun.

These and other N.M. member-organizations were delaying acceptance of Syrian and Palestinian-sponsored security measures on two grounds: 1) that a new government was to be formed and could come up with a security plan involving security measures for all parts of the country; 2) that a solution could be found to the controversy over the organizational decree of the new Army law and allow for the deployment of the Lebanese Army in West Beirut.

The deployment of the Army was also called for by the Shiite political and religious leaderships of the country and in particular by the Amal movement.

The Ain Remmaneh one-day clash between the Lebanese Army and the "Lebanese Forces" commanded by Phalangist leader Bechir Gemayel put an end to all these calls. The fact that the Army emerged from this clash battered and with a lower prestige served Syrian and Palestinian interests in the sense that it put an end to two main questions: 1) Lebanese calls for a security plan involving the deployment of the Army; 2) Moslem leaders' calls for the deployment of the Army in West Beirut.

The main question now is what will happen in the future. The rightwing Lebanese Front is escalating its campaign against the PLO and urging Lebanese Moslems to unite around one command and move against Palestinian armed presence in Lebanon.

On the other hand, speculations have it that the (Syrian) ADF may one day decide to pull out from Beirut and the question would then be whether it will leave the PLO in control or whether the PLO would be left alone to confront opposition and attacks coming not only from the rightwing Lebanese Front but from other sides as well.

Informed observers believe that it will all depend on the turn inter-Arab problems take in the coming days and weeks. These divisions among Arab states have already played havoc with plans to hold the 10th Arab summit in Amman, later this month and many are inclined to link the recent troubles witnessed in Lebanon (from Ain Remmaneh, to West Beirut to the cabinet crisis) to these inter-Arab divisions.

CSO: 4802

UAE DIPLOMAT ARRESTED FOR ARMS SMUGGLING

Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 12 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

BEIRUT, Tues. — Lebanese security officers at Beirut International Airport have arrested an Arab diplomat and two others as they tried to smuggle 56 pistols and 75,000 rounds of ammunition to the United Arab Emirates, according to police.

The three were identified as: Khalifa Said Al Meri, an attache at the embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Beirut, Abdel Aziz Abdel Karim, a minor employee at the embassy and Hassan Ali Atweh, an embassy driver, police said.

HAVEN

Although both Al Meri and Karim claimed diplomatic immunity, Foreign Ministry officials in Beirut said only Al Meri's credentials entitled him to diplomatic immunity but that he would be held for questioning his diplomatic status.

Beirut International Airport as a haven for drugs and arms smugglers,

but recently security forces have tightened security measures to halt the flow of arms to Lebanon's private militias.

Lebanon has the most flourishing black market for light arms in the Middle East. There were plenty of unofficial reports of arms smuggling from Lebanon to Arab states in the Gulf. Today's announcement, however, was the first official report of a seizure of a Gulf-bound arms shipment.

Meanwhile, military experts defused a bomb containing an estimated 20 kg of explosives in the northern port of Lebanon's Tripoli at dawn today.

State-run Beirut Radio reported that only 12 hours earlier two car bombs went off in a busy shopping centre in Christian east Beirut, killing 10 people and wounding more than 60.

The radio said the explosives were spotted by a security patrol touring the city, 90 km north of here.

CSO: 4820

BRIEFS

BOND MARKET PROGRESS--Beirut bankers, acting with the aid of the World Bank, have taken a significant step towards the goal of creating a bond market in Lebanon by the end of this year (AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO, March 3). The sum of LL 9 million (\$2.57 million) has been subscribed by 22 banks to set up the Finance Corporation of Lebanon, acting in conjunction with the International Finance Corporation, the World Bank's private sector affiliate. The new Lebanese financial institution is to serve as the basis for the proposed bond market. Three of the subscribers are foreign banks operating in Lebanon and George Achie, a member of the new corporation's founding committee, said the subscription list was being kept open for other foreign banks even though the deadline of October 15 for subscribers had not been extended officially. Mr Achie said he expected other local and foreign banks to take up shares with a minimum holding of LL 250,000. Mr Achie said the full capital of LL 10 million (\$2.86 million) of the new Finance Corporation of Lebanon had already been paid up. When the scheme was first put forward in March, the IFC was expected to take a stake of between 20 and 25 per cent of the shares. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 10 Nov 80 p 15]

CSO: 4802

RELATED ITEMS ON MOROCCAN-SOVIET COOPERATION

Phosphates, Shale and Fish

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 4 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Moscow, 4 November (Maghreb-Arab Press Agency)--The Moroccan-Soviet commission followed up its deliberations Monday afternoon in Moscow with an exchange of views between the two parties.

In the course of this meeting, the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, Me M'Hamed Boucetta, laid stress on the necessity of strengthening economic, technical and cultural cooperation between Morocco and the Soviet Union.

It should be noted that the Moroccan-Soviet commission, which had not met in 4 years, will from now on hold regular meetings. In this sense, Me M'Hamed Boucetta declared that the commission will be meeting again next year in the kingdom of Morocco in order to review accomplishments and elaborate a program for the next step in such a way that the accords between the two countries be continued and in the interest of both parties in the different domains.

Also, the minister of commerce, industry and the merchant marine and maritime fishing, Mr Azzeddine Gueassous, met Monday afternoon with the head of the Soviet part of the commission and the vice-president of the state commission for economic relations, as well as other leaders in the economic sector.

Similarly, the subcommittees created out of the joint commission began their labors.

Thus, with regard to the Meskala project, for the operation of which a cooperation agreement was signed, the discussions began between the Soviet part and a big delegation from the Shereefian Office of Phosphates led by the director general of the office, Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani. These discussions resulted in the conclusion of a protocol in this important domain to last from 1981 to 1984, as well as the implementation of the accord concluded between the two parties for prospecting and exploitation of bituminous shale at Tarfaya, in addition to geological research.

As for maritime fishing, the discussions continue on elaboration of a proposed agreement covering 1980-1981 and which assumes a scientific and technical character.

Four Cooperation Protocols Signed

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 8 Nov 80 p 3

[Text] Moscow, 8 November (Maghreb-Arab Press Agency)--Morocco and the Soviet Union Monday signed in Moscow two protocol agreements on scientific and technological cooperation.

The two documents were signed by Mr M'Hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, and the president of the state commission and Soviet minister of foreign economic affairs.

Two other protocols were signed by Mr Azzeddine Guessous, minister of commerce, industry, merchant marine and maritime fishing, and the Soviet minister of external trade.

Following the talks between the Moroccan and Soviet officials, the president of the state commission expressed his satisfaction in the cooperation of the two countries, alluding to the extremely important agreement on the Meskala phosphates, adding that the present visit being made by the Moroccan delegation to the Soviet Union will contribute further to the improvement of existing relations between the two countries in regard to scientific and technological cooperation.

The minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, Me Boucetta, said for his part that the signature of the 4 protocols between Morocco and the Soviet Union will contribute to the strengthening of bilateral relations over the next 5 years.

Touching on international questions, Me Boucetta said that the problem of Al Qods must occupy a large place in Moroccan-Soviet relations.

The discussions, said the minister of state, also bore on the situation that prevails in northwest Africa, in the Near East and on questions of mutual interest.

9516

CSO: 4400

MOROCCAN-BULGARIAN BILATERAL COOPERATION

Rabat L'OPINION in French 13 Nov 80 pp 1, 3

[Text] The official visit of Me M'Hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, to Bulgaria ended Tuesday with the signing of a process-verbal of the deliberations of the second session of the intergovernmental commission of economic, technical and cultural cooperation and with a joint Moroccan-Bulgarian communique.

The two documents were signed by Me Boucetta and Mr Samen Samenov, vice-prime minister and Bulgarian minister of metallurgy and mineral resources.

During an exchange of remarks, Me Boucetta said that Morocco wants to extend bilateral cooperation beyond the field of roads--confined to the exchange of products--in order to arrive at structural cooperation.

The minister of state said that the Moroccan proposal to set up joint machine construction units is an interesting example. The field of Moroccan-Bulgarian [potential] cooperation, he said, is vast and regards trade, exchanges of scientific information, agriculture and stock-raising, geology and mines, fishing and vocational training, as well as other branches of socioeconomic activity.

"We are happy to say that cooperation between Bulgaria and Morocco could be both deep and useful," he said, adding that, thanks to the exchanges which have already taken place and to the accords which exist between the two countries, "We are advancing and refining the domains in which cooperation should take place."

Me Boucetta, on the same occasion, congratulated the Bulgarian advisers in Morocco for the "dedication with which they are fulfilling their mission," and mentioned that the Moroccan students in Bulgaria are happy with their stay in that country.

"There are so many reasons for having confidence in the future," concluded Me Boucetta.

For his part, the vice-prime minister of Bulgaria pointed out that the decisions made in the course of the first session of the commission, in April 1980 in Rabat, are being executed successfully.

The Bulgarian side is persuaded that the decisions made during the session in Sofia will contribute to the expansion of our commercial and economic exchanges, he said.

The joint Moroccan-Bulgarian communique indicates that during his visit to Sofia, from 9 to 11 November 1980, Me Boucetta had talks with the president of the Bulgarian council of ministers, Mr Stanko Todorov, and Mr Petar Meladinov, minister of foreign affairs. He was also received by the secretary general of the Bulgarian Popular Agrarian Union and vice-president of the council of state.

During their meeting, Me Boucetta and his Bulgarian counterpart, according to the communique, examined bilateral relations and proceeded to an exchange of views on current international problems.

"They noted with satisfaction the positive improvement in Moroccan-Bulgarian relations, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence," the document says.

With regard to international problems, the communique indicates, the two sides "emphasize the necessity of strengthening detente, mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit."

They also reaffirmed the determination of the two governments to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening cooperation, arresting the arms race and leading to the adoption of effective disarmament measures.

9516

CSO: 4400

GOVERNMENT BUDGET REPORTEDLY TO CALL FOR EVEN MORE INCOME DISTRIBUTION

Rabat L'OPINION in French 23 Oct 80 p 1

[Article by M.T.]

[Text] A recent Council of Government meeting studied the 1981 draft budget which will be the first fiscal year of the next 5-year plan.

Although we do not yet know the options decided upon which will determine the principal orientations of this plan, certain indications nevertheless permit us to suggest that, in accordance with the instructions of His Majesty Hassan II, it will probably work to reduce social inequalities and limit operating expenses to devote most investments to the equipment effort.

One of the principal tasks entrusted to the present government since its formation consists in attenuating social and regional disparities. That is what the King recalled in a speech he gave when opening the current parliamentary year.

Therefore, we expect this budget for fiscal 1981 to serve as the point of departure for this policy.

If the definition of any budget and any plan is based upon political consideration first and foremost, it is obvious that the commitments made by the government are sufficiently clear that we have the right to demand their fulfillment. These commitments, moreover, were sufficiently developed on the occasion of the working days, seminars or even parliamentary debates so that they cannot lend themselves to any sidestepping during this period of our country's development.

There is no need to recall that our people have always responded positively to every demand for mobilization or sacrifice. However, it would be inappropriate to ask the popular classes to exclusively pay the costs required for our development and the defense of our country and our institutions.

The decision to reduce by one-third the rent of tenants whose income does not exceed 1,500 dirhams is a first step which should serve as an example for other reforms which should bring about redistribution of national revenues in an equitable manner.

The bulk of our population consists of workers, poor farmers and low-level government employees. It is the standard of living of the working classes that we should

now think about. For several years, their purchasing power has continued to deteriorate; and if solutions are not found to remedy this situation, there will be practically no national market, for lack of consumers. This is tantamount to the limiting of every productive investment effort, to the generalizing, therefore, of unemployment, to the causing of bankruptcy...

Obviously, the decision is political. It supposes new options and new choices, beginning with the application of a veritable policy of austerity.

8143

CSO: 4400

DOURI CALLS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH, INDEPENDENCE

Rabat L'OPINION in French 13 Nov 80 pp 1, 3

[Text] "I thank God the All-Powerful, for having brought us together again, on this glorious day, to celebrate the advent of the new year.

"It is customary on such a day to take stock of our various achievements and contemplate what we intend to undertake in the future.

"In listening to the speech of the secretary general, our dear brother Abderrahman Al Boury, we were able to truly appreciate the importance of the achievements made and of the efforts expended in order to enable our country's development to keep growing. And it is all the more important when one realizes that our country must deal with a difficult situation which was imposed on us. Also, it is with great pride that I can say that few nations confronted with the situation we are experiencing could achieve what we have undertaken. And this is especially due to our will and determination, as well as that of all the citizens of Morocco, united behind His Majesty the King Hassan II, may God glorify him; so that our country may join the ranks of the developed nations and regain the place which has always been its own throughout history.

"It is a great honor for me to hear His Majesty the King Hassan II, the Unifier of the Nation and Guide of the Green March [sic], speak so highly of the work done by your services.

"Your will and determination are such that I can look at the future of our ministry and our country with complete serenity.

"In working with you, I have been able to appreciate you at your true worth, and my admiration for you is confirmed everyday. And, if thanks to your efforts we have been able to complete the first stage of our work, I wish to be able to achieve, with the same determination and the same patience as in the past the next steps which will enable us to attain our goals, which as you know are numerous and ambitious and require the qualities that you already possess.

A Plan for Needs and Aspirations

"As you all know, this year is the first year of the new five-year plan. Also, in implementation of the wise injunctions of His Majesty the King Hassan II, may God glorify him, this plan should be a plan of recovery which will contain important projects which should enable our country to continue its economic development in the next 20 years, so that it can regain the place that has always been its own among the developed nations.

"This plan, unlike previous ones, will not be based on our own financially resources, but will have as its essential foundation the achievement of our objectives and the satisfaction of the national needs.

"With respect to the ministry of infrastructure and national promotion, the following steps will enable us to attain our objectives:

- "1) Increased development of vocational training and the training of cadres;
- "2) Improvement and implementation of new methods of management;
- "3) Taking adequate social and administrative measures;
- "4) Development and definitive Moroccanization of the public works sector;
- "5) Perseverance in the effort of national development.

"In the rest of my speech, I am going to go more deeply into each of these points so as to bring out the role which our ministry should play in achieving these objectives.

Vocational Training

"No one is unaware of the importance assumed by the training of cadres in the development of a country. Also, our country which has played an important cultural role throughout its history, must regain its place. Therefore we must work to endow our country with a national technology.

"As I told you last year at this same time: our ministry, which gives a fundamental importance to the training of cadres, has created the "Directorate of Training." This directorate will in particular be responsible for the development of scientific research. Similarly, during the year to come, the ministry is going to establish a scientific research body, as well as research laboratories in the fields of roads, hydraulics, and harbors. These laboratories will be equipped with the most modern materials and will be headed by national engineers.

Improvement of Management Methods

"The ministry is presently undertaking, in collaboration with national research bureaus, studies which should permit the establishment of new methods of public administration. These new methods must make it possible to determine policies to be followed with regard to infrastructure; and clarify the distribution of responsibilities when a decision is taken. They should also contribute to the optimization of the profitability of investments. Taking into account the encouraging results obtained by the application of the Basic Roads Scheme; a study was begun to produce a Basic Harbors Scheme. Similarly an identical study dealing with water problems will be produced during the next 5 years.

"During the year ahead, the ministry will publish a flow chart which will permit better control and follow-up on projects as well as better determination of needs.

Social Reforms

"Concerning the social domain, the ministry of infrastructure and national promotion has proposed a revision of the statutes regulating the public function. Also, while awaiting the approval of these statutes, research will be begun in the ministry on facilitating internal promotion. Also, a proposal has been made to lower from 7 years to 5 years the number of years necessary for the certification of laborer agents. Thus, this year 1,000 laborer agents will be certified.

"Regarding the allocation of housing to functionaries, the measures taken have borne fruit. By agreement with the ministry of habitat and territorial administration, plots of land and housing will be reserved for minor functionaries in future activities of this ministry. The proposal made by our ministry, namely the reservation of 2 percent of the infrastructure budget for the construction of housing to benefit the functionaries has been well received by the government.

"The experience gained by the directorate for hydraulics with the vacation resorts will be applied to all directorates.

"In order to assure all functionaries of transport, the ministry is going to develop the acquisition of public transport vehicles and reduce the purchase of individual vehicles.

"The social role of our ministry is not limited just to functionaries of the ministry of infrastructure, but extends to all the functionaries of the state; particularly in the religious field. Our country should not continue to perpetuate the practices inherited from the era of colonialism, but must return to its Muslim authenticity. Whereas at the time of colonialism our pupils did not work on Friday, now they do; whereas they should make use of this day to go to the mosque and perfect their religious education.

"Also, in accordance with the directives of His Majesty the King Hassan II, the prime minister has drawn up a proposal to make Friday a holiday. Also, as to the proliferation of alcoholic beverages which is happening more and more in our country, and which is contrary to our religion; the prime minister--following the wise injunctions of His Majesty the King Hassan II, may God glorify him--has given his instructions to put an end to this scourge.

Help the Public Works Sector

"In the context of its oversight mission with regard to the building and public works sector, the ministry is undertaking several steps at the governmental level to reactivate this economic sector. Thus, the ministry has ceased collaboration with foreign research bureaus in order not to approve contracts except for those with national research bureaus and enterprises, except in the case where a foreign enterprise subsidizes the project; on condition that the work be effectuated by national companies.

"Also, in order to permit national enterprises to have sufficient Moroccan cadres, the ministry has decided to supply these firms with engineers and action cadres; and to permit cadres in the ministry with much experience to rejoin the private sector. Measures will be taken in order to require the private firms to recruit Moroccan cadres instead of calling on foreign cadres.

"As we are fully conscious of the role of Arabization in the development of our country, we have, within our ministry, Arabized all correspondence and converted the typewriters from the French to the Arabic. Similarly, we are going to Arabise procedures for contract ratification.

"In order to facilitate this work, the ministry has prepared a technical dictionary that will soon be distributed to the various services.

The Objectives of the Ministry in...

"Following the wise injunctions of His Majesty the King Hassan II, may God glorify him, the infrastructure created by our ministry will be built up in a new perspective and with the help of modern methods.

Also we will make a distinction between two types of infrastructure:

- Economic Infrastructure.

- Social Infrastructure.

...the Field of Large Infrastructure Projects and...

"The first type of infrastructure should enable our country to assure its economic independence and the development of international trade. I will cite as an example:

- The fixed connection between Europe and Africa through the Straits of Gibraltar, which is going to transform the region both economically and socially.

- In this connection, following the instructions of His Majesty the King, our ministry is going to undertake studies on the establishment of a new port near the Straits of Gibraltar which should facilitate North-South trade.

- Infrastructure on the Gharb plain through the construction of several dams, including the Mjra; Mader; Ait Aoyub, and the diversion of the Matmata. This should permit the meeting of Morocco's sugar needs, and strengthen its energy independence.

- Harbor infrastructure for fishing, in order to contribute to the development of this sector. Also starting next year work will be done toward this end on the Nador, Jorf Lasfar, and Agadir ports.

...in the Socioeconomic Field

"As to the second type of infrastructure, the ministry is going to make it in the years to come a major part of its activities. This will be done in order to be able to improve living conditions for the citizens, to reduce regional disparities, and to integrate isolated regions.

"Thus, with respect to roads, the ministry is going to become involved in all the regions of the kingdom in the upkeep and maintenance of the national network. In order to expand regional trade, the ministry in collaboration with the local collectivities is going to build new regional roads. For this, the ministry is going to supply the necessary supervisory personnel, build the construction works, and supply the workyard equipment; as for the local collectivities, they are going to supply the manpower and the materials.

"In the field of harbors, the effort to build regional ports will be continued. One can cite the construction of the port of Ras Kebdana, the renovation of the ports of M'diqfi Jebba, Al-Hoceima, and the equipping of the ports of Nader, Safi, Agadir, Tan-Tan, and Tarfaya. The contracts for building the port of Laayoune has been let, and those for the ports of Sidi Ifni, Boujdour, and Dakhla are in preparation. As one can see, these ports are going to contribute to the economic take-off of several regions of the kingdom.

"With regard to water research, a major program has been launched: and major human and material resources will be mobilized for its realization. Moreover, the ministry is going to undertake the construction of two large dams which should supply potable water to the towns of Nador and Safi. A large dam with two purposes--provision of potable water and energy production--will be built in the Al Hoceima region. Studies for the dam at Ait Couarit on Oued Lakhdar have been completed and the work should soon begin.

"The ministry is going to indemnify the proprietors of the flooded lands, re-establish communications on all the roads cut by the building of the dams. Major projects are going to be undertaken for the supply of potable water to the biggest towns of the kingdom. For the towns of lesser size, a large sum will be reserved in the next 2 years to assure water supplies for them. In the rural areas, the ministry is going to undertake the drilling of wells at the request of the local collectivities, in the framework of the 'World Decade for Potable Water' (1401-1410). These various steps should make it possible to assure each citizen his provisioning in potable water by the end of these 10 years.

The Role of National Promotion

"Particular attention will be given to the national promotion services, to permit them to continue the important work done during recent years. This reinforcement will give all the resources necessary to national promotion in order to play an important role in economic development, especially by the resorption of unemployment and aid to the other services of the ministry.

"This undertaking will be especially characterized at the regional and local level by the construction of roads, well-drilling, reforestation, the protection of water reserves, and constructions of a social nature such as mosques and foyers [translation unknown]. And too, His Majesty the King Hassan II has given his high injunctions for national promotion to contribute to the organizing and the flourishing of youth.

"All these projects that I have just cited our ministry is planning to achieve during this first year of the 15th century of the Regira.

"Before concluding, I ask God the All-Powerful to give us the strength and will to undertake, under the wise leadership of His Majesty the King Hassan II, may God glorify him, all these labors which will make our nation rich and prosperous."

We note that before this the secretary general, Abderrahim Al Boury had sketched out the achievements of the ministry and the projects under way in the fields of dam construction, potable water supplies for towns, road infrastructure, and improvement of the road network.

He also made mention of the efforts expended by the ministry in terms of public infrastructure, and building in Rabat, in collaboration with the Chinese Government, of a sports complex.

After having underlined the role of the ministry in the development of the Sahara provinces, Mr Al Boury indicated several programs have been elaborated in the fields of national promotion, construction of water-towers, and vocational training.

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CSO: 44(8)

DATA BANK PROPOSAL UNDER CONSIDERATION

Morocco MAROC SOIR in French 17 Oct 80 p 7

[Text] MAP--Under the high patronage of the minister of information, Abdelouahed Belekziz, and the French ambassador to Rabat, Jacques Morizet, Pierre Pelou, curator of the National French Library and administrator of the Political and News Data Bank (BIPA), held a conference Wednesday evening in Rabat on the subject of "a plan for a political information and news bank."

During his conference, Pierre Pelou particularly covered specialized information in the world in general and in France specifically and information handling.

After having stated that his visit fell within the framework of cooperation between France and Morocco, Pierre Pelou said that this mission "is of great importance for the problems of information, organization and development in Morocco."

On the subject of information problems in the world, the conference speaker recalled American influence in this sector. "In fact," he emphasized, "the information sector has been practically monopolized by the United States; however, this monopoly has given rise to the establishment of a multitude of data bases and banks, of data processing centers and transmission networks."

As regards the significance of a data base, Pierre Pelou said that this is an automated bibliographical file which feeds back documents, in particular books or newspaper articles. As for the data bank, he said that it gives access to the data itself. And, finally, as regards the processing center, Pierre Pelou said, "This is a center for calculations, a technical and information processing center which has a very powerful computer in which an entire series of data bases and banks are stored." After having given a briefing on American influence in the information field, the conference leader described the influence of the Japanese who, according to him, "over the last few years have greatly increased their data bases and banks, particularly in two essential sectors, namely data bases which are of an economic nature and data bases of a technological kind." In this regard, he recalled that the big Japanese companies are spending 1.6 percent of their turnover on information problems (70 billion francs are spent every year in Japan on information problems by the private sector).

As concerns Europe, the conference speaker said that within the framework of the European Economic Community (EEC), an entire infrastructure on information problems has been developed particularly in Luxembourg.

The conference leader recalled the establishment in Luxembourg of the CDIST (Scientific and Technical Information Commission) which is responsible chiefly for developing a policy concerning the establishment and organization of data bases and banks through the different countries of the EEC, establishment of processing centers (20 centers in Europe) and also the establishment of a European data transmission network, EURONET, which will link the different national networks.

On the question of specialized information in France, the conference leader said that this subject has created a certain number of problems and questions concerning the restructuring of specialized information in France.

He also mentioned some of the organizations to which a report on this subject had been entrusted, including the MIDIST (Interministerial Mission for Scientific and Technical Documentation and Information). This organization's objective, he said, is to provide guidance and to organize everything concerning the development of data bases and banks in France.

The second mission was entrusted to the Ministry of Industry. This ministry was made responsible for the establishment of an information industry oriented toward data processing equipment as well as toward the establishment of data bases and banks for the public and private sectors.

The third organization of this information infrastructure in France is the Ministry of Universities which above all establish data bases and banks.

The last organization which is part of this infrastructure is that of the Ministry of Culture and Communications which is doing important work, in particular on the establishment of an information system within the framework of the National Audio-visual Institute, which is called the IMAGO system and which is working in particular on the establishment of a data base as well as on televised newscasts.

As concerns the BIPA, the conference speaker said that this bank is reliant on French documentation and is a central directorate of the government dependent upon the services of the prime minister and more particularly of the secretariat general of the government. French documentation, the conference speaker went on to say, is first and foremost an official publishing house but without a monopoly and also a documentation organization. The latter published a certain number of works relating to political, economic and social life, as well as several periodicals.

As for the role of the BIPA, Pierre Pelou said that it handles and disseminates information. "Everything that relates to published works and documentation falls within the purview of the BIPA which sets up data bases and banks and places them at the disposal of consumers such as parliament, the services of the prime minister or the Elysee, which are privileged consumers, but also makes them available to anyone in the world who wants to have access to this kind of information," Pierre Pelou said. "The BIPA," he added, "collects or selects different kinds of categories of documents."

The conference leader also recalled the sectors covered by the BIPA through its four divisions (information, government, politics and press photography).

After having discussed the technological aspects of the BIPA, Pierre Pelou said that as regards the dissemination of its products, the BIPA uses three methods: the conversational method via a terminal, printed products and microfiches.

In conclusion, the conference speaker said that in spite of the efforts which have been made and the results obtained by France in this sector, there is a great deal still to be done in the specialized information field.

At the end of this conference, a general discussion took place during which Pierre Pelou answered the various questions asked by the audience.

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CSO: 4400

MOROCCO'S TEXTILE SITUATION SUMMARIZED

Morocco MAROC SOIR in French 22 Oct 80 p 9

[Article by Brahim Amjahdi]

[Text] Last Friday, the Moroccan Association of Textile Industries (AMIT) held its regular general meeting in the presence of Abdelali Benlemlih, head of the Textile Industries Division, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Mohamed Guedira, director of the Moroccan Center for the Promotion of Exports (CMPE); and a representative of the Directorate General of Customs and Indirect Taxes.

The agenda of this important meeting covered the following points:

- Reading of the secretary's report and the financial report;
- Electing of the bureau and members of the Council of Administration;
- Examining of various questions.

The work of this meeting began with the reading of the secretary's report by Mohamed Driss Quelytouni, deputy and outgoing president of this association.

This report brought out the many and important activities of the AMIT with a succinct analysis of the present situation of the textile industry in our country and a balance sheet of accomplishments during the past fiscal year.

"First, it is useful to recall the broad picture of the situation prevailing in 1979, the second year of the 3-year plan of reflection and stabilization.

"On the whole, the Moroccan economy continued to be characterized by the persistence of the international crisis which was translated into another sharp rise in the prices of energy, raw materials and capital goods and, in the domestic sector, continuation of a policy of austerity and the strengthening of our territorial integrity.

"The policy of austerity was based on the decrease in public expenditures, limitation on imports and restrictions on credit. This policy prevented aggravation of the foreign deficit without, however, attainment of the desired objectives at the level of the fundamental balances."

As for the deficit in the balance of trade, there was a deterioration compared to 1978 because of the increased impact of the oil bill. An appreciable increase in exports and a rise in the number of our workers transferring to foreign countries and tourist revenues did, however, permit reduction of the overall balance of payments deficit.

Development in the Textile Industry

Drissi continued, "In spite of a difficult economic situation, the textile sector in 1979 experienced rather favorable development with sustained activity in most of the areas. This is particularly noticeable at the level of investments which developed favorably, with total commitments of 173 million dirhams. This is equal to last year's total.

The value added produced by the textile industry in 1979 totaled 1.107 billion dirhams, with the sectors production amounting to 3.108 billion dirhams compared to 2,820 billion dirhams in 1978.

Restrictions on imports and the campaign against smuggling have had beneficial effects, resulting in an improvement of the domestic market.

The textile industry in 1979, moreover, benefited from rather sizable government orders, particularly in the cloth, cotton fabrics and ready-to-wear apparel sectors. However, most of the enterprises experienced financial difficulties deriving from the following factors:

1. The insufficiency of bank support and even the withdrawal of certain banks.
2. The deposit prior to import which reached figures at times by far exceeding the possibilities of the working capital.
3. The excessive increase in the costs of all factors of production.
4. The demand for cash payment by suppliers.

Supplies of raw materials were often made very difficult because of:

1. Instability on the international raw materials market which was accentuated by the rise in the price of oil.
2. The decision to halt or decrease the production of certain European spinning mills.

The prices of raw materials increased 15 to 30 percent forcing the enterprises to raise their sales prices but less than the rising costs of the production factors.

Exports totaled 830 million dirhams in 1979; i.e., a 10 percent increase compared to 1978.

Analysis of Each Branch

Spun and Woven Wool

This sector as a whole experienced positive development except for mercerized threads. The woven cloth experienced an important increase because of the level of government orders. Knitting thread also registered appreciable growth.

Several projects in the woven wool sector are now being studied or implemented. It is estimated that over 40,000 new spindles will be installed in 1980-81.

Spun and Woven Cotton

On the whole, market trends have been good with more sustained domestic demand. Paralleling product improvement, the prospects for this sector are optimistic, account taken of the investments made and the demand of the hosiery thread branches.

It should be noted that the ready-to-wear apparel industry continues to be very dependent upon imports which are being admitted on a temporary basis and that increasing demand for finished articles (light fabrics) requires an adaptation of production to export demands.

Woven Upholstery

This sector continues its advance with a very dynamic commercial policy both on the domestic and foreign markets; thus, its exports represented about 60 percent of the turnover experienced.

Efforts also made to improve quality and diversification of manufactured articles justify the ban on all imports.

Woven Silk and Synthetic Fibers

This sector experienced a slight drop in production and supply problems in the thread area. Investments now being made in the manufacture of more diversified articles make it possible to anticipate better prospects.

A restructuring of this sector would permit national production to replace imports being temporarily admitted to the country and to meet domestic needs in finished articles.

Woven Terry Cloth

This sector experienced several problems because of weak domestic demand. Exports are continuing to increase and are being called upon to develop even more; however, on the whole, activity is being maintained at a rather stable level. It should be stated that after a period of investment and organization, this branch is now entering a phase of full production which should result in an improvement in the rate of utilization.

Embroidery

Embroidery activity has developed little compared to the previous year; however, there was an observable movement in the direction of producing more finished luxury articles.

The drop in foreign demand forced the enterprises to fall back upon the domestic market where demand has been rather satisfactory. The export turnover which represented 33 percent of 1978 production reached only 21 percent in 1979.

Texturization

Three plants now have 8,904 reeling spindles and 2,704 throwing spindles; other plants are under study. Some plants are already exporting, which is a good sign.

Knits

Warp knit which supplies the domestic market with a gamut of very diversified articles experienced a drop in production of about 25 percent. This branch exports very little.

On the other hand, woof knit has experienced a clear advance thanks to sustained demand particularly on foreign markets and this in spite of supply problems and treasury tensions.

In spite of the international situation, prospects are quite promising. Important investments are now being made for the renovation of equipment, with a view particularly to the manufacture of articles with fine sizes.

Ready-To-Wear Apparel

Ready-to-wear apparel experienced the most remarkable advance which is reflected in production earmarked for export. Of production evaluated at 500 million dirhams, 64 percent were exported; i.e., 321 million dirhams, representing 38 percent of total exports of textile products.

Increased activity in this branch necessitated important investments for renovation or expansion.

Forecasts are optimistic thanks to good prospects on foreign markets.

Finishing and Printing

This sector experienced a sharp setback due to a drop in demand attributable particularly to strong emphasis on the export of unfinished fabrics.

The production capacity of this activity is sufficient to meet processing needs. Effort should be exerted toward improvement of the quality of processing at all levels to better meet the demands of both the domestic and export markets.

Hard Fibers

The hard fibers sector (jute sacks, twine and cord which manages to meet the needs of the country maintained its activity in spite of increases in the costs of production and competition from synthetic substitute products.

Continuing his presentation, Drissi gave a brief summary of the situation in the textile industry during the first 6 months of 1980.

The general trend in this sector is characterized by a certain amount of sluggishness which is explained by uncertainties on the international market, by the situation being experienced by certain traditional European partners and by problems of all kinds encountered in keeping our enterprises active by assuring them of as normal financial management as possible.

In spite of this rather unfavorable climate, investments totaled 139 million dirhams compared to 103 million dirhams during the same period of the previous year; i.e., an increase of 35 percent.

The making of these investments should result in the creation of 2,200 new jobs.

As for 1980 exports, forecasts are quite favorable. As of the end of June, exports totaled 492 million dirhams.

In spite of all the difficulties encountered, the textile sector should attain the objective which we have set for ourselves at the SATEC [expansion unknown]: to exceed the turnover figure of 100 billion dirhams in exports as of the end of 1980.

Establishment of a CMPE

In a related connection, in the future business sector, the establishment of a Moroccan Center for the Promotion of Exports is a happy initiative which merits every encouragement. To this end, Drissi invited the men of the profession to facilitate the task of the director of this center and to provide him with all the information he will need to accomplish his mission.

At present, he emphasized, a study on revision of the Investments and Exports Code is being conducted in the CGEM [Moroccan General Economic Federation], and we have not failed to stress certain points which seem vital to us.

"The situation our country is experiencing demands additional and prudent effort from us in the management of our affairs.

"But at the same time we must show greater dynamism to continue down the road to expansion, while accepting all the sacrifices to effectively contribute to the defense of our territorial integrity.

"Let us also note that a CMPE will be opened very shortly in Casablanca which we remind you is a new tool for the promotion of textile exports."

The reading of the financial report, the second point on the agenda, was approved.

As for the election of the new bureau for a period of 2 years, Drissi Queytoni [as published] was once again reelected to the presidency of this association.

The members of the new bureau are as follows:

President: Mohamed Drissi Queytoni

Vice Presidents: Alami Tazi, Tahar Bouchaara, Driss Sebti, Mohamed Lahlou, Mohamed Tazi, Mohamed Kabbaj, Abdou El Manjra, Yves Sanchez, J. Toledano and Mustapha Doghmi.

Secretary General: Abdelhamid Mikou

Treasurer General: Abdelali Alami

Group Presidents

Tahar Bouchaara: Cotton Spinning-Weaving

Abdelilah Kabbaj: Wool Spinning-Weaving

Mohamed Kabbaj: Silk, embroidery and mesh

Mohamed Lahlou: Furnishings

Aziz Idrissi: Knits

Mohamed Tazi: Ready-To-Wear Apparel

Mohamed Polkhatat: Reeling; Weaving

Telegram to His Majesty the King

At the end of this meeting, a telegram of loyalty and devotion to the Alouite Throne was sent to the royal cabinet.

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CSO: 4400

PARDON OF TRADE UNIONISTS HELPS CREATE CLIMATE OF CALM

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 17 Nov 80 pp 24-25

[Editorial by Hammadi Ben Hammed: "The Page Has Been Turned"]

[Text] "In taking these humanitarian measures on behalf of the first group of trade unionists convicted by the State Court of Justice, the Supreme Commander has tried to ensure that the painful page of events of 26 January 1978 has been turned once and for all and that all nationalist trade unionists will unite to serve the nation's higher interests. The chief of state also hopes that these measures will encourage the creation of a psychological climate in which the next UGTT [Tunisian General Federation of Labor] congress will be held under normal conditions, permitting the free and democratic election of new union leaders. In this way, the Tunisian people's fight for progress, dignity and invulnerability will be strengthened and the workers and all the country's human forces will be able to contribute to the drafting of the Sixth Five-Year Plan under better conditions."

It was in these terms, on Monday, 10 November 1980, that Mohamed Mzali commented upon President Bourguiba's decision to pardon ten trade unionists convicted by the State Court of Justice and other trade unionists sentenced as a result of several criminal and police cases by the proper courts in Tunis, Sousse, Kasserine, Sfax, Gafsa and Sidi-Bouazid. The effects of the rulings were therefore nullified.

Three days later, on Thursday, 13 November, the chief of state met for the first time with the members of the National Trade Union Commission, headed by their chairman, Nouredine Hached. The meeting provided the chief of state with the opportunity to affirm "the trade union confederation's need to have within its ranks loyal nationalists who demonstrate a sincere spirit of responsibility and working, by dint of a sustained and fruitful effort, to engage the country on the path of prosperity, progress and invulnerability."

The Supreme Commander emphasized the need to "pursue the action of educating workers so as to inculcate in them our high patriotic values and make them realize their rights in order to avoid any action that might hinder our development effort." The chief of state emphasized that the UGTT must help strengthen efforts being made by the government to ensure the success of the Sixth Plan, which can guarantee that Tunisia will triumph over underdevelopment and achieve progress and prosperity. In this way, the UGTT will have helped to consolidate Tunisia's prestige at home and abroad.

The social atmosphere in Tunisia today is therefore one of detente, serenity.

At the root of this detente and serenity is Bourguiba's willingness to trust others.

Measures of clemency, pardons and releases have come one after the other throughout recent months, bearing witness, as noted by Mohamed Mzali on 19 May, the eve of the 24th anniversary of independence, "to the great heart of Bourguiba, who nourishes hatred against no one." They also demonstrate the political will of the founder of the new Tunisia to make every individual, even if a dissident for a time, aware of his national responsibility, provided that he demonstrates a determination to recognize errors of approach, evaluation and judgment and that he expresses a desire to rejoin the national community and once again become an active, sincere and loyal militant, moved by the ambition to serve.

Among the presidential decisions are the following: the reopening of the School of Law and Economics and the National Engineering School in Tunis on 1 March 1980; the lifting of measures to exclude a certain number of persons from the party on 8 March 1980; the conditional release, on 9 March 1980, of a number of imprisoned trade unionists; the chief of state's statement on 3 August 1980 that "there no longer exist any political prisoners in Tunisia, either among the workers or the students"; and the recommendation of the Political Bureau of the PSD [Destourian Socialist Party] on 4 August 1980 to create a "national trade union commission on which all Tunisian workers will be represented so as to prepare for the next congress of the UGTT, ensuring the presence of delegates to the congress from all trade union members and seeing that the work takes place in a free, democratic and responsible climate."

Other important decisions include those relating to the suppression of the vigils corps at the university, the rehiring of workers laid off following the events of 26 January 1978 and the exclusion from the party ranks of those who departed from its principles and used their leadership posts for inadmissible purposes.

Along with these actions, one should note the intense action aimed at making Tunisians aware, action tirelessly waged by Mohamed Mzali since 23 April 1980 and inspired by President Bourguiba. This awareness is necessary in the new era so that:

- 1) at the political level, government at all levels will be by consensus and so that all the country's human resources, no matter what their political affiliation, will be attracted to centers of decision making and action, considering that this country belongs to all Tunisians, that it is the patrimony of everyone and that all the people want to guarantee its stability, justice and prosperity;
- 2) at the social level, we may prevent tension and all forms of confrontation and that there may be a dialog with workers, all workers, in order to guarantee them better living conditions and greater dignity; and
- 3) at the economic level, the development policy will have a deep social significance, encouraging the fairest possible distribution of wealth and using imagination and creative innovation to further the spirit of enterprise, intelligence and will.

All these steps were taken in recent months so that Tunisia might embark once and for all on the path chosen by Bourguiba: the path of union and invulnerability,

turning the page of the "wanderings" that Tunisia had to endure and that are an affront to its real vocation, made of tolerance, openness and moderation.

It is a vocation that Bourguiba, throughout his long struggle, has affirmed, emphasizing a humanism of freedom, dignity and responsibility in his administration of man and in affairs of state, demonstrating a constant concern for the achievement of a progressive democracy in keeping with the political maturation of Tunisia and the evolution of the economic and social conditions of its environment.

While the "wanderings" may at one time have threatened that vocation, while the intransigencies and excesses they engender may have risked bringing down the nation's structure, Bourguiba has been there to rectify the situation, prevent the reign of disproportion and blindness, reconcile the country with itself and revive in the Tunisian people the sense of solidarity, brotherhood and love for one's neighbor.

Nothing can illustrate this better than the outcome of the painful events of 26 January 1978, when abuse after abuse took the place of dialog, concertation, the essential foundations of Bourguibian political practices, when stubbornness, obstinacy, refusal and one-upmanship led the country down the path of adventure and chaos, ruled by uncontrolled passions.

The page has now been turned and most Tunisians now say "Never again!"

But a great deal remains to be done and Bourguiba clearly defined it in receiving the National Trade Union Commission.

It is a question of working for truly national trade unionism, responsible trade unionism that can freely participate in the acceleration of economic and social development and the consolidation of national unity, following the guideline that the interests of the workers cannot be dissociated from the interests of the Tunisian people as a whole.

Moreover, this objective is more within our reach than ever, as the paths of the future have been cleansed of maximalisms and their magic.

The tasks of the future, those which consist of triumphing over underdevelopment, of preserving invulnerability and dignity, of consolidating the democratic structure, are so essential and so absorbing that loyal, sincere and honest nationalists, imbued with their responsibility, could never abandon them, even for a time, for the nasty cock fights that led to that unfortunate 26 January.

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CSO: 4400

TUNISIA DETERMINED TO REMAIN INVULNERABLE

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 17 Nov 80 p 35

[Article by Raja El Almi: "Our Invulnerability"]

[Text] Various important elements have now combined to lead the debate back to the standards -- or terms -- of invulnerability, as intended and conceived by modern Tunisia. Actually, the chief of state has on several occasions and only recently -- on Monday, when receiving Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and secretary general of the PSD [Destourian Socialist Party] -- strongly recommended that the sum allocated by the budget to national defense should be increased, without thereby harming in any way the areas of development that have traditionally received priority. In addition, Minister of Interior Driss Guiga made a statement on Friday (published in a local daily on Saturday) revealing that intensified security measures have been taken throughout the Tunisian territory, particularly in the south, in order to prevent any unfortunate developments as the result of certain troop movements and certain particularly unstable situations that prevail in regions next to our territory.

Finally and above all, the fundamental basis of the preservation of national sovereignty, independence and the achievement of true invulnerability has always constituted a major concern of the Bourguibian regime. The concept of invulnerability as articulated in Tunisia is not simply to have the means of military defense that are essential to a response and the safeguarding of freedom, but also to have the moral strength, complete conviction, the total determination of every individual leading to the unity of all, fierce, freely given, absolute, against any attempt on the fruit of the labor of a nation and the aspirations of a people that wants to build and not destroy, that wants to defend justice and freedoms.

In Tunisia, it is not by counting tanks and missiles that one gauges defense in terms of invulnerability. While arms are necessary, while the so-called "strike" force is also, the union of all the people around common ideals, concerted actions, marked by constant vigilance, undeniably represents the essentially new and modern trump card which the Bourguibian regime has shown it held over and over.

Consequently, at a time when the arms race, the race to improve means of defense in developing countries, often results in fewer credits granted to development and economic and social construction, Tunisia is adopting quite another position which, while granting to means of defense and their modernization all the attention they deserve in a world that is prey to hegemonic appetites, resolutely refuses to allow them to be acquired at the expense of the areas whose planned improvement is vital

to the fight to overcome underdevelopment. Tunisia likewise refuses to slow down its constant efforts for the advancement of man through education, health, social services, jobs, culture (and so on), in order to acquire defense means. Moreover, it is clear that one could not easily try or succeed in such an undertaking in the face of a nation convinced of its rights and determined to defend itself with strength and serenity. In this, the National Union takes on its full significance, as do support for and loyalty to the regime that has given the Tunisian people so much since it came to power.

The purpose of Bourguiba's Tunisia has never been and will never be warlike, which is what truly makes the difference, for far from trying to attack or take from others, Tunisia wants nothing more than to defend and protect itself, whether by discussion or action, against any appetites that might make an attempt on its sovereignty.

Among the developing countries, Tunisia offers an almost unique example of moderation, tolerance and a concern for justice and fairness, and on the domestic front, in these modern times, it is involved in a constant quest for the best possible consolidation of social peace and human advancement. There is concertation, debate is free and responsible and different views and opinions are expressed. Work is relentless so as to build the future in keeping with the aspirations of the majority of the people to prosperity and progress.

In other words, in this sense, Tunisia and the Tunisian people have many things to defend and protect. Have they not clearly demonstrated this?

But in the light of experience, albeit bitter, it has now become essential for Bourguiba's Tunisia to be able to defend itself by acquiring the most appropriate equipment and by granting the necessary credits, particularly within the framework of the next budget for 1981. It is also essential that real and total invulnerability be consolidated further by the involvement of everyone in the development process, through the unity of all around what has made the success of modern Tunisia: the will to have what is better, not worse, the will to build and construct, the will to unite and not divide.

It is essential so that Tunisia may remain this wall of wills against which destructive appetites would fling themselves, but without being able to conquer it.

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CSO: 4400

ARAB-AFRICAN-EUROPEAN 'TRILOGUE' DISCUSSED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 3 Nov 80 p 55

[Commentary by Souad Hassan: "Let us Turn to Practice"]

[Text] The visit which Raymond Barre, the French prime minister, paid to Tunisia, was the occasion of an enhancement and reassertion of the importance of the "trilogue" which should develop among Arab, African and European partners.

Asserting the determination of their respective governments to promote this "trilogue," the French and Tunisian prime ministers went beyond a simple reminder of the principle in order to lay as of now the foundations for specific action in this respect. Barre and Mzali emphasized the need for introducing changes in international economic relations. Yet, such changes call for the formulation of plans and implementations in the technical, economic and financial areas. Actually, it is now a question of going beyond theory and undertaking specific action.

Thus, by deciding to create an "investment bank with the participation of Tunisia, French financial institutions, and Arab partners," the two governments laid the initial foundations for new cooperation with a view to eventually reducing the current imbalance of trade through practical action. The fact that a bank would constitute one of the initial effective stages of this "trilogue" is not accidental. It is within the structural framework of a financial institution that various plans will be most closely studied from the viewpoint of their profitability and will thus be subjected to a test.

Everyone is aware of the importance of the implementation of such a joint project both domestically, for the host country, involving the creation of jobs and integration within the national economy, and on the international level, affecting all partners through the development of commercial relations among them, and respective new openings of international markets for some and the opportunity for new investments, for others.

Such being the consequences affecting their economies, the promoters of the "trilogue" decided to base their activities, first of all, on a financial level. This will mean that each plan will be subjected to a critical study of all its factors on the implacable basis of profitability. This requirement will protect the partners from undertaking any kind of thoughtless or courtesy project.

The structural basis of the "trilogue" has been established. Following the resolve of the French and Tunisian governments, let us emphasize the need to promote such dynamism in the rest of Africa. By virtue of its double affiliation with the Arab world and the African continent, Tunisia could play a basic role in the success of the "trilogue." By virtue of this double affiliation and the privileged nature of its relations with Europe, Tunisia could become the most listened to maker, promoter and partner in the "trilogue." Considering that such an intercontinental undertaking may not be restricted merely to economic and financial exchanges, the French and Tunisian prime ministers equally emphasized the fundamental nature of the cultural "trilogue." This implies meetings, cooperation, dialogs and confrontations among different civilizations which have been frequently reciprocally ignored. In order to be successful, the "trilogue" may not ignore the human, social and historical dimensions of the exchange among peoples and civilizations.

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CSO: 4400

TUNISIAN MINING OUTPUT SURVEYED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 10 Nov 80 p 57

[Article by Mustapha Souai: "Sustained Activity Thanks to Strengthening of Domestic Demand"]

[Text] The strengthening of the mining industry sector, noted in 1979, continued in 1980 as confirmed by the latest statistics of the Office of Mines and Geology. This recovery is due, first of all, to increased domestic demand (after the SAEPA reached full capacity) and, secondly, the increased amount of investments in this sector and the measures taken to improve the situation in the non-ferrous metals sector. Thus, investments in the sector exceeded by 34.3 million dinars the figures planned for the first three years of the Fifth Plan, totaling 118.3 million dinars. This year's appropriations for the sector totaled 20.3 million dinars, reaching, therefore, a grand total of 138.6 million dinars for the 1977-1980 period.

The extraction of calcium phosphate, which is the main Tunisian mining product, showed a tremendous development in the new mines, whereas the output of the old mines declined by the substantial amount of 26.4 percent. All in all, the production of phosphates by the various Tunisian mines reached 2,760,473 tons in the first seven months of 1980 as against 2,218,761 tons over the same period in 1979, or a 24.4 percent increase. On the commercial level, domestic sales over the same period totaled about 1.8 million tons or a 56.2 percent increase compared with the first seven months of 1979. Mineral exports remained the same, totaling 864,000 tons. Therefore, local sales which currently account for two-thirds of overall sales, greatly increased as a result of the development of the domestic processing of this mineral converted into phosphoric acid and fertilizers (simple and triple superphosphate, etc.). Let us point out that between January and July 1980 the SAEPA purchased 627,482 tons of phosphate as against no more than 30,491 tons over the same period in 1979.

In the first 7 months of 1980 231,774 tons of iron ore were sold mostly to Al-Fouladh in Menzel Bourguiba as hematite and carbonate, as compared with 238,217 tons in the first seven months of 1979, showing a slight 2.7 percent drop.

This was a natural drop directly related to the relatively high level of iron ore stockpiled in recent years totaling 226,242 tons by 3 July 1980. Sales on the local market are continuing to rise particularly following the increased

activities of the Menzel Bourguiba metallurgical plant. In the first seven months of 1980 iron ore sales totaled 214,610 tons as against 183,639 tons over the same period in 1979, or a 17 percent increase. Let us point out that 18 percent of the ore sold came from the Djebel-Djerissa mine, Tamera-Douaria accounting for the balance.

The production of lead ore is continuing to stagnate as a result of the diminution of reserves and even the exhaustion of some deposits. In the first 7 months of 1980 a total of 8,870 tons of lead ore had been marketed compared with 9,414 tons in the first 7 months of 1979, or a 5.8 percent decline. However, this level of output does not meet the increased requirements of the Tunisian Mining and Metallurgical Company (SMMT) which, therefore, has been forced to increase its imports. In the first 7 months of 1980 the company imported 14,054 tons as compared with 10,079 tons in 1979, or a 39.4 percent increase. As to zinc ore, all of which is exported, since Tunisia does not have a zinc processing refinery, in the first 7 months of 1980 output reached 10,989 tons or a 21 percent increase compared with the corresponding period in 1979. Let us point out that such increase in zinc ore production is the result, above all, of the start up of the Fedj Hassene mine and, secondly, the consolidation of the output of the Sidi Bou-Aouane and Djebel-Hallouf mines. Fluorite production is continuing to improve. It totaled 24,228 tons as against 21,289 tons over the first 7 months of 1979, or a 13.8 percent increase. A total of 18,595 tons were sold on the local market and 2,303 tons were exported (to Italy) in the first 7 months of 1980. The comparison between these sales and the same period in 1979 shows a respective increase of 2.4 and 35.4 percent. Within the same period of time barite and silver production increased.

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